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ART. I. *Hygëia: or, Essays Moral and Medical,* on the Causes affecting the personal State of our middling and affluent Classes. By Thomas Beddoes, M. D. 8vo. 3 Vols. 1l. 4s. Boards. R. Phillips.

POPULAR treatises of medicine have been frequently given to the public, but, with a very few exceptions, they have neither obtained nor deserved any considerable share of attention. In the majority of cases, they are indeed scarcely objects of criticism; being either the vehicle by means of which the empiric announces his nostrums to the public, or the last resource of some needy book-manufacturer, who, according to the mandate of his employer, deals out politics or theology, metaphysics or medicine. The present performance is, however, of a different stamp. It is the production of an author well known in the scientific world; whose originality of genius is universally admitted; and who possesses, in an eminent degree, the power of captivating the feelings of his reader, by peculiar boldness of conception and energy of language. In these respects, Dr. Beddoes must be regarded as particularly well adapted for the task which he has undertaken: but there are other points, in respect to which he appears to us to have remarkably failed, as we shall more fully shew in the course of our observations.

Medicine is an experimental science of peculiarly difficult investigation. The facts from which its principles are deduced are numerous: but, in consequence of the great variety of operations carried on in the human frame, and the changes produced on it by the many external agents to which it is exposed, we find the utmost difficulty in ascertaining to what particular cause any individual effect is to be attributed, and in what degree that effect is modified by the interference of any counteracting influence. Hence it follows that the attempt to establish general principles, from the confused medley of facts that present themselves, has almost in every instance proved abortive. By the application of the correct notions of modern science to the art of medicine, we have at length learned not only to dis-

card the hypotheses of our predecessors, but we are become sensible of the impossibility of substituting better in their room.

The object of the enlightened practitioner in the present day is two-fold. He endeavours to gain an accurate acquaintance with the appearance of disease, and a knowlege of the best method of removing it. The first cannot be acquired merely by books; and without the first, the second is comparatively of little value. Years of unremitting attention are scarcely sufficient to enable the young physician to commence his career of practice, with that confidence which a thorough knowlege of his profession can alone inspire;—how vain, then, must be the expectation that the perusal of a few pages should qualify, even the man of education, much less the mother or the nurse, to pronounce on a morbid condition of the body, or to discriminate between the shades of two resembling, but in reality opposite diseases? If it be difficult to acquire a knowlege of the general facts of medicine, how much more arduous an undertaking must it be to draw from these facts general principles, to clothe them in a popular dress, and to render them intelligible to the mass of mankind? There are, we think, but two medical topics, which can, with any prospect of advantage, be made the subject of popular discussion;—we may attempt to eradicate from the public mind certain prevailing but erroneous notions, founded on obsolete theories, which lead to injurious practices;—and we may point out to the uninformed the danger of trusting too implicitly to their supposed proficiency in the art of medicine.

It is time, however, that we recur to the more immediate consideration of the work before us. The first two essays may be regarded as in a great measure introductory: their principal object is to point out those circumstances, a want of attention to which produces an unfavourable influence on the state of the health; to impress on the minds of the people at large the importance of attending to whatever may contribute to strengthen or impair the constitution; and to warn them against falling into those prejudices which too generally prevail on these subjects. The first step to be taken, for the attainment of this end, is the acquisition of a general knowlege of the human frame, and its relation to the external agents by which it is liable to be affected. The author suggests,

'That seasonable care should be taken to provide each individual with a set of ideas, exhibiting the precise relation in which his system, and the several organs of which it is compounded, stand to external agents, particularly to those with which he is likely to come most in contact;—that these sets of ideas be so placed in his head, that he

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may refer to them with as little difficulty as to the watch he wears in his pocket;—and that as by the one he adjusts his business to his time, so by the other he may be always able to accommodate his actions to his powers.'

Dr. Beddoes illustrates at some length the importance of this procedure; he attempts to convince the reader that the study which he recommends is not less interesting than useful; and he contrasts the unwearied assiduity with which we pursue the advancement of our prudential concerns, with the indifference that we feel on subjects connected with the well-being of the corporeal frame. To remove this apathy, he proposes that, in every considerable town, popular lectures should be delivered to a mixed audience, on select subjects of anatomy.—That, in proper hands, such a series of lectures might become tolerably interesting to some individuals, we are willing to allow; and, if no farther end were obtained, than to engage the mind in the pursuit of science, and thus divert it from the trifling topics which at present occupy so large a share of attention, we should be disposed to favour the plan. We are, however, of opinion that anatomy is precisely that branch of natural science, which is least adapted to excite and maintain the interest of a mixed audience. The senses must unavoidably be assailed by disgusting impressions; the memory will be burdened with a formidable nomenclature; and an eye, not already familiar with the objects, will perceive little more than a confused mass, in those preparations in which the experienced anatomist can detect the most beautiful and elaborate organization. If then we can expect little *amusement* to result from these studies, still less can we hope that any considerable share of *useful instruction* will be communicated. Anatomy must be considered as the basis of all medical science, but the light which it casts is thrown in too indirect a manner to guide the step of the uninitiated. Will the valetudinarian be more capable of judging with regard to the effect of different kinds of food on his stomach, after having seen this organ dissected? Or will the nervous female be in any degree better able to controul the irritability of her feelings, after having seen a skull opened, or heard the lecturer descant on the structure of the nerves? On the contrary, we conceive that the little smattering, which they might chance to acquire, would have the most direct tendency to render them fanciful and hypochondriacal;—would cause them to exaggerate their morbid feelings, and to exist in the perpetual dread of deranging some essential part of the complicated structure. This process occurs, in almost all instances, as a regular part of a medical education; the young student conceives himself affected with every disease, the symptoms of

which he hears recited; and before he has completed Cullen's First Lines, he has gone through a whole nosology of ailments. This part of Dr. Beddoes's plan, which indeed must be regarded as the foundation of the whole, we cannot therefore but consider as absolutely untenable, and as calculated to produce directly opposite effects from those which are proposed by the author.

In consistency with this foundation of anatomical lectures, it might naturally have been expected that the pupil would be advised to pursue his studies by the perusal of medical books: but, we find Dr. Beddoes, in the 2d essay, declaiming with much energy against all works on popular medicine! He exercises his usual force of language in pointing out the absurdity of endeavouring to teach even a mechanical art, or trade, by mere reading; and he remarks that this absurdity must attach in the highest degree to any attempt of this kind with respect to the science of medicine:

'Here let me beg the reader to consider the power and province of mere rules in practical affairs of the easiest kind. No one has, I suppose, yet come forward with pretensions to teach the coarsest handicraft by a book. But in the tumult of literary projects, amid which we live, scarce any absurdity being impossible, let us imagine some adventurer, sufficiently intoxicated to undertake to communicate the capacity for exercising one of our humblest, and most useful trades, without apprenticeship, by a tract on *domestic shoemaking*. Should any one, after studying this tract, conceit himself qualified to handle the awl and the paring-knife, I leave it to be imagined by the reader, how unmercifully the leather would be pricked and slashed, and what would be the condition of the poor toes, condemned to be lodged in the receptacle, prepared by these learned hands?—Does common sense spurn at the idea of efficacious instruction in such an art by such means? Are the qualities, then, of leather more complicated than those of the living body? Does the art of managing the former to most advantage require a long apprenticeship, and not that of managging the latter? Are the tools that lie within the compass of the shoemaker's bench, more easy to employ properly, than the articles of the materia medica? I see, indeed, one essential difference. The incompetent mechanic will soon be marked. No clumsy workmanship of his can pass. Whereas, in medicine, bunglers may go on, I know not how long, without disgrace.'

We certainly did not expect to meet with this kind of reasoning in a set of popular essays on health; since we were totally unable to distinguish between the object of Dr. Beddoes's own volumes, and that of the writings which he condemns. It appears, however, to consist in this circumstance, that the author proposes only to teach the public the method by which they may preserve their health; while these 'hucksters in medicine,' as they are not unaptly styled, pretend to give directions how it

may be restored. These objects, however, if not absolutely identical, are so closely connected, that we cannot see how they are to be kept asunder. Presisely the same kind of knowlege is applicable to both cases; the same kind of prejudices prevails on both subjects; and the same theories have been employed to regulate as well the prevention as the cure of disease.

After having descanted on the folly of teaching medicine to the unprofessional, and the danger of permitting this art to be practised by any but the most expert, the author launches out into a philippic against the influence of wealth and luxury on the minds and constitutions of the civilized nations of Europe, and particularly on the inhabitants of our own island. He enlarges on the fatal effects produced, not only on the lower orders of society, who are doomed to unhealthy occupations for the purpose of manufacturing the articles of luxury, but likewise on the refined classes, who, in obedience to the laws of fashion, are subjected to restraints scarcely less unfavourable to their health or comfort.

The second essay is dedicated 'to the ministers of religion of every denomination.' The author points out to them how usefully they might employ a part of that influence which they possess over the minds of the public, by impressing on them a due attention to the means of preserving health; and the same topic is again introduced in the conclusion of this essay. We do not, however, conceive that the appeal is likely to produce the desired effect; for the subject is treated with a degree of levity, we may almost add in decorum, which is little calculated to gain their confidence, or ensure their co-operation.

Having in the first two essays stated his design and general plan of procedure, Dr. B. commences his operations in the 3d essay by an attack on girls' schools. He appears for some time to have had this object in view, and has accordingly been in the habit of making specific inquiries on those points which might be supposed to have the greatest influence on the health of the pupils. He particularly directed his attention to the articles of diet, temperature, exercise, and cloathing; on all of which he conceives that he has detected great deficiencies. In order to obtain the most complete information on the subject, and to remove every imputation of inaccuracy, Dr. Beddoes has either procured in writing, or taken down from the mouth of the person whom he was questioning, a relation of the most important circumstances. Some of these histories are given in detail. They agree so nearly with each other, and correspond so far with our own ideas on the subject, that we conceive it to be impossible not to acknowlege that the system usually adopted for the education of females is

in many respects essentially injurious to their present comfort, and lays the foundation of weakness and disease. We cannot, however, agree with the Doctor in the severe insinuations which he throws out against the conductors of these schools; and we are of opinion that some of those practices, which he the most severely condemns, have originated rather from an erroneous judgment, than from the motives to which he imputes them. Simplicity in diet has, we think, been frequently carried to an injurious excess, by those who were the most anxious for the welfare of their pupils; in consequence of the erroneous though very general prejudice, that rich food contaminates the blood, and generates impure humours which can only be removed by abstinence. In the same way, some persons, who are laudably anxious to *harden* the constitutions of young persons, have deemed it necessary to keep them exposed to a low temperature; in observance, perhaps, of some theory concerning the relaxing effect of heat. These, and other similar notions, were not merely the speculations of the vulgar, but were the prevailing theories of the learned, or were directly deducible from them; and they have probably been adopted to the fullest extent by those who were the most attentive perusers of treatises on health, and were the most anxious to become acquainted with the principles of animal œconomy. Happily, these hypotheses are banished from the writings of the modern physiologist, and are hourly losing their influence over the minds of the public.

We deem it a favourable circumstance for the rising generation, that both the physical and the moral ideas on the subject of education are every day becoming more liberal; the system of restraint and severity, and the little attention that was paid to the inclinations and feelings of the pupils, must have been equally unfavourable to the growth of the mental and the bodily powers. Many of the evils of which Dr. Beddoes complains most loudly, and with most justice, must be remedied by this gradual change; and notwithstanding the absurd notions which fashion or caprice may occasionally introduce, we look forwards with some confidence to a state of permanent improvement.

Besides the more weighty evils that have been already pointed out, the author inveighs with much energy against the excessive attention which is paid to music; not only as engrossing too large a portion of time, but as producing injurious effects on the health. In that spirit of *vivid representation*, which forms so distinguished a trait in Dr. Beddoes's writings, he says; 'those who are not acquainted with particular facts—that is, who pronounce without any sort of evidence—may smile.

smile. But I will not suppress my suspicion, that the largest pack of hounds we have, turned out *mad* upon the country, might possibly have committed less ravage, than that rage for excelling in music, which, of late years, we have seen invading families, and imposing the necessity of such strictness of application upon the girls.'

In a strain of invective equally vehement, though more appropriate to the magnitude of the evil, the author declaims against 'fashionable dress.'

'Many women, in the morning, muffle themselves up to the chin and ears, and go about half naked all evening, braving disease and death. The cold of our climate is sufficient annually to cut down thousands of females, who, having been tenderly brought up, will not guard themselves by sufficient covering against it. But the ladies are not content with the havoc, committed in this manner. Among death-bed confessions, I have heard of a practice of *damping* the cobweb garments, which otherwise would hang about the limbs too loosely. By this means, the killing rigour of an inclement atmosphere, is most materially assisted. The desire of obtaining a celebrity, equal to that of some monuments of antient art, which have been lately transferred to Paris, appears to me quite as good a reason for risquing life, as many of those, which have conferred mortality on the adventurers. But the beautiful followers of the *attitude* or *statue* fashion unfortunately do not stiffen into figures like the Venus de Medicis, or like what they would themselves be in good health. The state, to which they are often reduced, is one from which every one turns away with horror, except the stealer of dead bodies and the dissector.'

The same observation may apply to the idea entertained of modern novels:

'The common love-stories are justly regarded as abominable. They relax soul and body at once.—But there is a class of novels—the mushroom growth of the present unhappy age—undeservedly considered with more favour. Certain projectors, totally unacquainted with the data for calculating individual happiness, set about to draw up schemes for the happiness of nations. These schemes were received with clamorous applause by second rate reformers, as shallow and presumptuous as their principals. The principals by degrees incurred universal odium or contempt; and were deserted by their satellites. From the dead and putrid carcases, however, of their conceptions, there has issued a swarm of novels, as noisome as the mass by which they were engendered. The authors of these novels rank among the basest flatterers of corrupt opinion. They are clumsy enough to be obliged to overcharge what they decry; and manage their ridicule so, as to recommend existing abuses, not less baneful than any crudely concerted plans for innovation.'

In the 4th essay, the author enters on the consideration of boys' schools, and treats the mode in which they are usually managed with scarcely less severity than he exercised in the

last chapter on schools for the female sex. The plan, almost universally adopted, of keeping the pupils confined for several hours in succession to a sedentary employment, is strongly censured by Dr. B. He considers it as a relic of monastic discipline, and as having been first practised by the monks, under whose direction the education of youth was for the most part conducted, in conformity with their general system of restraint and mortification. Without entering into any discussion respecting the origin of the custom, we agree with the author that it is on many accounts objectionable; and we must the more deeply lament its general prevalence, when we bear in mind that the particular branches of learning, for the attainment of which such sacrifices are made, prove, in a majority of cases, of little future value to the possessor. We think, indeed, that Dr. Beddoes greatly magnifies the extent of the evils produced by this system of vexatious restrainst; yet we concur with him in the principle, and approve of his concluding admonition:

'Take care that your children be not frequently subject to depression—and with despondency let them be entirely unacquainted. If they have small difficulties to struggle with at first; and if the contention be short; their resolution will be strengthened by the proximity of the prize, and they will be able to comprehend the causes of failure and success.'

Other practices injurious to health are enumerated, and exposed with much energy of language. The suggestions of the author are certainly deserving of serious attention: but we are decidedly of opinion that some of the topics on which he most enlarges, are of too delicate a nature to be thus openly obtruded on the public eye.—He concludes with a 'sketch of the principles, according to which a healthy school can alone be established.' A scrupulous attention to every circumstance, which can improve the constitution of the pupils, forms a prominent feature of the plan: but, for reasons which will be sufficiently obvious to our readers, we cannot coincide with the Doctor in the supposed necessity of the preceptor uniting the studies of the physician to those of his own profession. The other parts of the sketch do not admit of much animadversion; the outline only is marked out; and the more minute details, on the arrangement of which the ultimate success of such schemes must in a great measure depend, are not introduced.

The 5th essay treats 'on temperature and hardiness, with remarks on diet.' It commences with an account of the effects of temperature on infants, a subject of undoubted importance, and on which we believe that many fatal and erroneous notions are

are almost universally prevalent. Dr. B. paints in strong colours the numerous evils which await this period of our existence, but he consoles us with the idea that they are not irremediable :

'What subject of contemplation is more melancholy than the uncertainty of life during its first stage? What oftener intrudes upon the purest and most placid domestic enjoyments, than the alarming recollection of this uncertainty? What plunges families into deeper distress than the occurences from which it is deduced by political arithmeticians? It seems, however, clear that the knowledge and application of a few simple principles, would prevent the greatest part of this alarm and distress. Of two equal lots of infants I do not entertain the smallest doubt but the mortality would be less by half, in that where these principles should be steadily followed.'

We are somewhat less sanguine than Dr. Beddoes.—We next meet with some very pointed remarks on the impropriety of immersing infants (particularly such as are delicate) in cold water, for the purpose of *hardening* them. To increase the power of the body in resisting external impressions is one of the most important objects, to which the attention of a parent can be directed: but we agree with the present author in thinking that a wrong system has generally been adopted :

'It was observed, that many persons, accustomed to be buffetted by storms, so much exceed the inactive fire-side *tenderling* in spirit, vigour and health, as to have a fair claim to be deemed a superior variety of the human species. The effect of certain cold mediums in giving hardness to some inanimate bodies, and in bracing others, or bringing their parts closer together, was joined to the preceding observation. It was also evident to feeling, that the stoutest men have their muscles most braced, or most capable of resisting compression.'

From these circumstances, arose the idea that, in order to produce a robust constitution, nothing more was necessary than to expose the child to a sufficient degree of cold. Perhaps in some few cases this may have had the desired effect: but in the majority, we have no doubt, irreparable mischief has ensued. We perfectly coincide with the author that 'long continued and repeated chills will in the first instance enfeeble, and in the second bring on a susceptibility of the powers, that superinduce violent diseases.'

We have noticed above the bad effects that are supposed to be produced on infants, by cold bathing injudiciously employed; and Dr. B. is afterward led to consider the danger that frequently ensues from the indiscriminate recommendation of this practice at a more advanced age. The length of time during which boys at school remain immersed in cold water, and the almost universal custom of bathing in the sea,

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as it is now employed in all states of the body, even by people labouring under great debility, are reprobated as laying the foundation of many dangerous complaints. All these circumstances, which tend to diminish the temperature, are but the more to be deprecated because the prevailing modes of life, particularly among the higher classes, are in many respects extremely debilitating.

While treating on this subject, it was impossible not to advert to the prevalence of catarrh in this country; a complaint which is become serious by its frequency, and is often the forerunner of the most fatal diseases. The variableness of our climate undoubtly forms the basis for these affections: but their attacks are rendered more frequent and more violent by our injudicious modes of life, and especially by the construction of our habitations, and the peculiarities of our dress. The excessive warmth of our rooms and the thinness of our cloathing augment the effects of those variations of temperature, which are far more prejudicial than a greater degree of either heat or cold more uniformly applied; and the general substitution of cotton for woollen, though conducive to cleanliness and elegance, has probably had an unfavourable effect on the health.

We are next taught 'how to escape the common diseases from variation of temperature,' and are, in the first place, led to a disquisition respecting the nature of catarrh. Dr. Beddoes adopts in its fullest extent the theory of Brown; which he dignifies with the name of a 'discovery that deserves to be regarded as one of the most ingenious and happy combinations ever formed by the human mind, and in relation to these islands as perhaps eventually the most useful, recorded in the annals of medicine.' We apprehend that few of our scientific readers will assent to this enthusiastic and unqualified encomium: but the merits of the Brunonian doctrine, and of this particular part of it, have been so frequently discussed, that we conceive it unnecessary to enter at large on the question in this place. We believe that the authority, which it had acquired at one time, over the public mind, is daily declining; and that, at present, few men of observation will be found to sanction its leading principles,—much less many of those practical inferences which have been rashly deduced from it. In the present instance, we do not perceive that Dr. Beddoes has introduced any new arguments in proof of his opinion respecting the origin and nature of the disease; nor any new directions for its prevention and cure: except, indeed, where he recommends that a person labouring under catarrh should remain up a whole night, in order to avoid the heat of the bed cloaths, which must necessarily be 'unfavourable in inflammatory diseases.'

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This is certainly a most complete triumph of theory over experience.

[*To be continued.*]

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ART. II. *A Statistical and Historical Inquiry into the Progress and Magnitude of the Population of Ireland.* By Thomas Newenham, Esq., Author of several Political Tracts relative to Ireland. 8vo. pp. 358. 8s. Boards. C. and R. Baldwin. 1805.

IF it was observed with too much justice by high authority*, that there was no country in Europe of which the English were more ignorant than of Ireland, we hope that this reproach is rapidly wearing out; and that the period is quickly approaching, in which we shall not be liable to it in any degree. With the laudable view of promoting so desirable an object, Mr. Newenham composed the work before us; in which the best motives and very creditable industry are displayed.

In his introductory chapters, Mr. N. enumerates the physical and local felicities which distinguish Ireland; such as its salubrious atmosphere, its mild temperature, its rich and healthy soil, its favourable position, its fine rivers and admirable harbours, and the other conveniences which induced early observers to pronounce that island capable of excelling in population, wealth, and power. The effects of the envious policy of England, in counteracting the benign intentions of nature, are stated next in order. Even the liberal Davenant, who had meditated deeply on the subject of political economy, expressed a wish to divert the people of Ireland from attempting to extend their trade too much abroad; *a point which*, he says, *is not to be slighted.* He desires that the principal part of their dealings may be confined to this kingdom; which, for many reasons of state, he supposes, will be best and safest for England. In the same spirit, is the language of another eminent character, as quoted by Mr. N.

'Sir William Temple, in his letter on the advancement of trade in Ireland, written, in 1673, to the Earl of Essex, the then Lord Lieutenant of that country, says, "regard must be had to those points wherein the trade of Ireland comes to interfere with any main branches of the trade of England: in which cases the encouragement of such trade ought to be either declined or moderated, and so give way to the interest of trade in England." Speaking of the wool of Ireland, he says, "the improvement of this commodity by manufactures in this kingdom would give so great a

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* The late Earl of Clare.

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damp to the trade of England that it seems not fit to be encouraged here."

'Such were the sentiments of eminent political writers and persons of considerable influence in the councils of England: And the different acts relative to the trade of Ireland fully evince the ascendancy which a spirit of commercial jealousy had acquired in the legislature of the former country. By one act, the exportation of woollen manufactures to England was prohibited. By another, the exportation of fullers' earth to Ireland was prohibited, in order to throw a damp on the woollen manufactures there. By another, the exportation of wool from Ireland to England was restrained: an act, which, as Sir Matthew Decker observed, proved in the end infinitely serviceable to the woollen manufactures of France. By others, the exportation of wool and woollen manufactures from Ireland to any part of the world was obstructed. By another, the exportation of cattle to England was prohibited: an act, which as Sir William Temple predicted, gave rise to the beef trade of Ireland; which it was not then in the contemplation of the British legislature to encourage. By another, a direct trade to the British plantations was prohibited: a trade for which Ireland is singularly well circumstanced, her vessels, as Lord Sheffield remarks, often crossing the Atlantic in a shorter time than the ships of London require to clear the channel. Duties of various natures, embargos, &c. &c. all in compliance with the paralysing spirit of commercial jealousy which prevailed, operated in conjunction with these statutes, to confine the trade of Ireland within the narrowest limits: to preclude the establishment, or at least effectually to check the growth of manufactures in that unfortunate country.

'Thus circumstanced, during near three-fourths of the last century, was the trade of Ireland: the trade of a country, confessedly, endowed with every physical requisite and advantage for foreign and domestic commerce; qualified, in the opinion of the sagacious Sir William Temple, to be one of the richest countries in Europe. "These circumstances," says he, "(political ones) so prejudicial to the increase of trade and riches in a country, seem natural, or at least to have ever been incident to the government here; and without them, the native fertility of the soil and seas in so many rich commodities, improved by a multitude of people and industry, with the advantage of so many excellent havens, and a situation so commodious for all foreign trade, must needs have rendered this kingdom one of the richest in Europe, and made a mighty increase both of strength and revenue to the crown of England." Thus circumstanced was the trade of a country, of which the intelligent Mr. Browne speaks in the following manner; "Ireland is, in respect to its situation, the number of its commodious harbours, and the natural wealth which it produces, the fittest island to acquire riches of any in the European seas; for as by its situation it lies the most commodious for the West-Indies, Spain, and the northern and east countries, so it is not only supplied by nature with all the necessaries of life, but can over and above export large quantities to foreign countries, insomuch that had it been mistress of a free trade, no nation in Europe of its extent could in an equal number of years acquire greater wealth."

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The author infers a progress in Irish agriculture from the increased exportation of corn; which continued nearly progressive till it was checked by the unsettled state of the government, and the prevalence of disaffection which recently diffused itself through that kingdom. The jealousy of England is apparent, says Mr. N. from its having discountenanced the tillage bill, which was intended to oblige the farmer to lay out in arable land five in every hundred acres. The landlords of Ireland coincided in this measure with the views of the British government; and they procured the abolition of the tythe of agistment, which operated as a negative premium in favour of pasturage.

When discussing the subject of the draining which the population of Ireland has undergone in modern times, the author relates, as facts tolerably well ascertained, that, between 1691 and 1745, that is, in the space of 54 years, 200,000 men emigrated to America and the West Indies; that, during the same period, an equal number passed over into England; while, according to the Abbé Geoghegan, 450,000 Irishmen died in the service of France. This latter number we must regard as exceeding the truth, though the present writer asserts that there is no reason for this suspicion.

Illustrating the great spring which belongs to population in the sister island, Mr. Newenham thus remarks:

'If the political situation of the great majority of the Irish people was miserable in the extreme, during about three-fourths of the last century: if the trade of Ireland was so fettered, and the tillage of that country so confined, during nearly the same space of time, as not to afford adequate employment to the labouring part of the community: if, in consequence of these distressing circumstances, multitudes withdrew from their native country: and if nevertheless, the population did, as it is known to have done, increase with considerable celerity; must we not consider ourselves as completely dispossessed of all fit grounds for surprise at its having increased, with signal rapidity, since the removal of every obstacle to its progress; the different causes of its increase still continuing to operate with unabated energy?'

The reader who is acquainted with the mathematical precision with which Mr. Malthus has treated the subject of population, and with the comprehensive view of it which his work embraces, will probably consider the observations which are made in these pages as comparatively desultory; and the respectable author justly regrets his not having seen the performance of Mr. M. till this part of his volume had been finished.—In repelling objections grounded on the returns of the collectors of hearth-money, Mr. N. reveals to us some curious secrets respecting the mode in which the Irish revenues have been heretofore collected. He gives a most flattering picture of the

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situation of Ireland, during the short period which intervened between 1782 and 1788. He is of opinion that, in Ireland, population has been rapidly increasing ever since the revolution; and that of late years it has advanced with accelerated speed. He estimates the loss of lives in the rebellion as not exceeding 15,000; and that occasioned by the war of the revolution, including those who died or were killed as well in the army as the navy, at 120,000 Irish Catholics, and 10,000 Irish Protestants. He supposes the average of the annual increase of population in Ireland to be 91,448 souls; and he asserts that two-thirds of the disposable force of the empire are Irish. The national debt of Ireland is here stated at upwards of 53 millions, of which more than 43 millions have been incurred since the rebellion! In examining the actual state of agriculture, of exports and imports, and comparing it with that of preceding periods, Mr. N. satisfactorily proves his main position respecting the increase of population in the sister-country.

It has been frequently mentioned that the Catholic gains over the Protestant population; and the present author not only corroborates the fact, but thus accounts for it:

'Experience has proved that religious sects, instead of being exterminated have, for the most part, been extended by persecution. A knowledge of human nature, and of the peculiar discipline of the church of Rome, will leave no doubt on our minds that the Roman Catholic religion is of all others, the most likely to thrive in a state of proscription. And a little reflection on the history of Ireland will convince us, that the circumstances of that country have been peculiarly favourable to the extension of the persecuted religion.

'The different natures of the sources, moreover, from whence the Roman Catholic and Protestant clergy derive their respective incomes, seem likely to have had the effects of increasing the zeal of the former in the work of proselytism, and, as far as worldly considerations could, abating that of the latter: and an abatement of such zeal must necessarily have facilitated the advancement of the Roman Catholic on the Protestant religion, even though the latter had always been as powerfully supported and exalted as it now is by the erudition, the abilities, the benevolence, the decorous conduct, and the unaffected piety for which great numbers of the Irish Protestant clergy, and especially their prelates, are confessedly conspicuous.

'Besides associations, friendships, alliances, and a variety of cogent considerations must, at all times, have greatly conduced to forward the conversion of a comparative small number of Protestants, of the lower and middle classes, scattered among multitudes of Roman Catholics; while similar preparatory circumstances and inducements could not have facilitated the conversion of Roman Catholics, if even the Protestant clergy had been as assiduous as the Roman Catholic clergy were; because, in no district, of any considerable extent, were the Roman Catholics so far out-numbered by the Protestants, as the latter

latter were by the former, in most parts of the three provinces before mentioned.

'When a proscribed, or merely tolerated religion greatly exceeds the established one, in point of numerical strength, the ordinary causes of the extension of the former will always be effectually aided by the concurrent operation of many others.

'That the Roman Catholic religion, under its present circumstances, will continue to gain ground on the Protestant religion, in Ireland, is I think indisputable. The increasing wealth of the country, it is true, annually raises up a considerable number of individuals, from the middle classes of the community, consisting at present, in the three provinces before-mentioned, chiefly of Roman Catholics, to the higher ones, consisting almost wholly of Protestants. But we find instances of conversion among the wealthy Roman Catholics, notwithstanding their association with Protestants, extremely rare. They look to the attainment of much greater political weight by adhering to, than by forsaking the religion of their ancestors. By the former, they expect to stand among the leaders of a most powerful party; by the latter, they perceive that they must rely on their talents and good fortune alone for future political distinction.

'As for the lower orders of the Roman Catholics, not the slightest hope of converting them can now be entertained. Whatever ground the Roman Catholic has, in reality, gained upon the Protestant religion in Ireland, such ground, I have not the smallest doubt, will not merely be maintained, but enlarged, at least so long as the principal efficient causes of the extension of the former religion continue to operate.'

Ireland, it is calculated, contains 13½ millions of square acres, of which 18 parts in 19 may be rendered fertile; since the country every where abounds with lime, marl, and other manures. On the supposition that the natives will continue to subsist on their present diet, the author endeavours to shew that Ireland is capable of supporting eight millions of inhabitants: but he adds;

'Should increasing wealth gradually introduce a change in that mode of living which now obtains among the more numerous classes of the people of Ireland, the farther increase of population, as far as it depends on food, would be but little impeded by such an event. Ireland lies open to the four quarters of the world. Its seas may be navigated throughout the year. Its coasts may for the most part be approached with safety in the most tempestuous weather. It is every where indented by secure harbours, there being no fewer than sixty-six in a circuit of about 750 miles*. Noble rivers already navigable, or

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'* *Bays, Harbours, Havens, &c. which afford safe anchorage for* LARGE SHIPS OF WAR—Cork, Crook-haven, Beer-haven, Bantry, Shannon, Galway, Ballinakiel, Killery, Newport, Blacksod, Broad-haven, Sheep-haven, Lough Swilly, Lough Foyle—*For* FRIGATES, —Belfast,

or which may be rendered so, intersect it in all parts. Canals may be cut through it in all directions, without exhausting, as in other countries, that supply of water which is requisite for many other useful purposes. Smooth and durable roads may be, and indeed are made, in every district however comparatively unfrequented, at an inconsiderable expence. In short, it presents such facilities for an importation and quick transportation of provisions throughout its whole extent, as are not to be found in any other country in Europe, Holland perhaps excepted; and such as effectually guarantee it against the mischiefs resulting from a population disproportionate to internal means of subsistence; and thereby extend the ordinary limits of the increase of people.'

The benevolent, liberal, and patriotic spirit, which breathe throughout the whole of this volume, is strikingly displayed in the concluding paragraph:

'A due consideration of the various facts which have been brought into view in the foregoing pages cannot, it is presumed, fail to impress every reader with the vast and increasing importance of Ireland in the political scale of the British empire: and to excite in every good, loyal, and patriotic man, the utmost solicitude for the continuance of internal tranquillity in that country, manifestly qualified to furnish, in the greatest abundance, the means of sustaining the power of the United Kingdom amidst the momentous changes which Europe seems likely to undergo.

'The recollection of recent events, accompanied by reflection on the nature and inveteracy of those principles of disunion, which have hitherto so frequently had the effects of blasting the growing prosperity of Ireland, and rendering it one of the most vulnerable parts of the British dominions, may create despondency in some. For my part, I think there are considerations which strongly tend to excite sensations of a very different nature.

'Surely Irishmen, of all sects, have sufficiently experienced the diversified mischiefs of religious animosity; and must languish for its

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—Belfast, Carrickfergus, Strangford, Dublin, Waterford, Kinsale, Baltimore, Long Island Sound, Dunmanus, Kenmare, Killala, Sligo, Donegal, Killybegs, the Rosses, Mulroy, Carlingford.——*For* MERCHANTS SHIPS,—Racklin Island, Malahide, Wicklow, Wexford, Dungarvan, Youghall Oyster haven, Courtmacksherry, Glandore, Castle Townsend, Ballinskellicks, Valentia, Dingle, Ventry, Tralee, Arran Island, Castle bay, Greatman's bay, Kilkerran, Cuskeen, Berterbui, Roundstonebay, Ardbear, Claggan, Boffin Island, Rathfron, Milk harbour, Ballyshannon, Tilen, Croit Island, Inishmahon, Inhisboffin, Strabegg, the Skerries, Drogheda.

For large Ships of War....	14
For Frigates.....	17
For Merchant Ships.....	35
Total.....	65,

besides 24 places, where ships may find shelter in bad weather.'

utter

utter and final extinction. Surely Irishmen of all parties have had sufficient reason to lament the calamitous effects of internal feuds and commotions. Surely Irishmen have no longer to learn that dark, foul, and treasonous conspiracies, confederacies, and alliances, not only involve individual ruin, but induce political imbecility, national poverty, humiliation, and subjection: and that industry, civilization, internal tranquillity, and alacrity in maintaining the authority of the laws, while they must necessarily be productive of the happy effects, of drawing over a large proportion of British capital, ingenuity, and experience, and eventually giving additional and lucrative employment to thousands, are the *true and only means* whereby Ireland can attain that enviable pre-eminence which nature has qualified her to enjoy. Surely Irishmen are prepared to admit that, although the late political system of their country did undoubtedly supply the means of rendering it conspicuous amongst the nations of Europe, yet that, under an equitable and well cemented union, the sister islands cannot fail to experience the highest possible commercial and political advantages, mutually enriching, strengthening, and aggrandizing each other. Surely Irishmen must derive some consolation from the thought of their country's having become, after ages of political depression and turmoil, a prominent and most influential part of a vast empire, distinguished by an unprecedented combination of exalting circumstances; by great and increasing opulence, high martial renown, undisturbed internal repose, and perfect civil liberty, enjoyed by all ranks and descriptions of the community: an empire possessing the means of becoming irresistible; and much more likely to endure than any which has ever existed.

'Surely Irishmen must perceive that while, on the one hand, it is demonstrably inconsistent with the real welfare of their country to urge any factious, frivolous, unfounded, or unnecessary claim; it is, on the other, no less so with that of England to withhold any benefit which Ireland may acquire a right to enjoy. Surely Irishmen may find grounds for being persuaded that the statesmen of the United Kingdom, sensible of the vast real importance of Ireland, will ever be disposed to investigate promptly, patiently, and minutely the grievances and claims of that country; to redress the former if real, and admit the latter if well founded, and notified in the temperate, cautious, steady, and becoming manner which accords with the spirit of the British constitution, and corresponds to the dictates of political wisdom.'

Mr. Newenham calculates that each Irish square mile has a population of 197 persons, being 8 more than in England, which makes that of the whole island amount to 5,400,000; of these he supposes the Protestants not to amount to more than 1,080,000, which makes the Catholics to be to the Protestants as 4 to 1. We do not consider the data, which give this great majority, as satisfactorily established. Sir William Petty calculated that the Catholics were in his time as 8 to 3. The war of the revolution indeed reduced this proportion; and

it appears by the return made to the Irish House of Lords in 1731, that the number of Catholics was not at that period as 2 to 1. It would follow, then, if Mr. Newenham were well founded in his calculation, which we presume cannot be the case, that the Catholics must have more than doubled their proportion in 70 years.

Jo.

ART. III. *Anecdotes of the English Language:* chiefly regarding the local Dialect of London and its Environs; whence it will appear that the Natives of the Metropolis and its Vicinities have not corrupted the Language of their Ancestors; in a Letter from Samuel Pegge, Esq. F.S.A., to an old Acquaintance and Co-fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, London. 8vo. pp. 325. 6s. Boards. Nichols, Rivingtons, &c.

PHILOLOGY offers few subjects more curious than the history of the English language; which has been derived from various sources, has received numerous admixtures in its progress, has been the sport of whim and caprice, and is at present far from being completely grammaticized. The late ingenious Mr. Pegge amused himself, and will doubtless amuse his readers, while, under a feigned zeal for the credit of the common London or cockney dialect, he discussed the aukward state of our language at a period not very remote from the present day, and adduced written authorities, of no mean rank, to justify expressions which are now regarded as evidences of vulgarity and want of education. With much grave humour, he pleads the cause of 'old, unfortunate, and discarded *words* and *expressions*, which are now turned out to the world at large by persons of education, (without the smallest protection,) and acknowleged only by the humbler orders of mankind; who seem charitably to respect them as decayed Gentlefolks that have known better days;' and he insists that those modes of speech, which Dr. Johnson treated with so much contempt as mere "colloquial barbarisms," claim respect on account of their pedigree, though not for the company which they are now forced to keep. Formerly, these were of good repute; and though they be now melted down and modernized by our present literary refiners, the cockney evinces his partiality to the old family language, and is not ashamed of being some centuries behind the present fashion. Cockneys, then, are intitled to some favor from an Antiquary, and their dialect will supply him with food adapted to his taste.

In order to manifest his *profound* respect for the Cockney, Mr. Pegge endeavours to rescue this appellation from the ludicrous etymology of those who explain it to be compounded of *cock* and

and *neigh*, and who in justification of this derivation tell a story of a true born Londoner, who being in the country, and *rerum rusticarum prorsus ignarus*, exclaimed on hearing a horse neigh, "How the horse *laughs!*" but being informed that the noise was called neighing, and in the morning hearing a cock crow, he cried out, "how the *cock neighs!*" Mr. P. leaves those who may be so inclined to indulge a *horse-laugh* on this occasion, and proceeds, after having expressed himself dissatisfied with former conjectures, to solace his brother antiquary with the semblance of an etymon:

'The French (he says) have an old appropriated verb (not to be met with in the modern Dictionaries – but you will find it in Cotgrave, viz.) "*Coqueliner un enfant*," to *fondle* and *pamper* a child. The participle passive of this verb will therefore be "*Coqueliné*," which by no great violence may, I think, be reduced to "*Coquené*;" for in pronunciation, the penultimate syllable (*li*) will easily melt in the mouth, and accord, in our spelling, with the word *Cockney*.'

This *fondled* creature is so much Mr. Pegge's darling, that he will not permit the fashionable world to abuse him as they have done. The sneering Courtier is reminded that the dialect in use among the citizens, within the sound of *Bow-bell*, is that of antiquity; and that 'the *Cockneys* who content themselves with the received language and pronunciation which has descended to them unimpaired and unaugmented through a long line of ancestry, have not corrupted their native tongue, but are in general luckily right, though upon unfashionable principles.' These peculiarities of expression, the *shibboleths* of the common citizens, are here termed *Londonisms*.

For some of the modes of pronunciation employed by the Cockneys, the author attempts no defence; thinking that it is better to throw them on the mercy of the court: but he artfully endeavours, before he leaves them to their fate, in this respect, to put a smile on the countenances of their judges.

'After all, the most striking and most offensive error in pronunciation amongst the Londoners, I confess, lies in the transpositional use of the letters W, and V, ever to be heard where there is any possibility of inverting them. Thus they always say,

'W*eal* instead of v*eal*; and

'W*inegar*, instead of v*inegar*;

while on the other hand, you hear

'*Vic*ked, for *wic*ked—

'*Vig*, for *wig*; and a few others.

'The following little dialogue is said to have passed between a citizen and his servant:

'Citizen. Villiam, I vants my vig.

'Servant. Vitch vig, Sir?

'Citizen. Vy, the vite vig in the vooden vig-box, vitch I vore last Vensday at the westry.

'To these may be added their use of the letter W, in the place of the letter H, in compound words; for, instead of neighbour*hood*, widow*hood*, lively*hood*, and knight*hood*, they not only say, but would even write, neighbour*wood*, widow*wood*, lively*wood*, and knight*wood*. Nay, they have been caught in the fact; for the last of these words is so spelt in Dr. Fuller's Church History, and in Rymer's Fœdera. This oversight cannot, however, be charged upon either of those writers; but, as they both lived in or near London, it is most probable that their amanuenses were first-rate *Cockneys*, and that, in collating the transcripts by the ear, allowances had been made for mere pronunciation without suspecting error in the orthography.

'All that can be said upon these unpleasant pronunciations taken together is, that letters of the same organ of speech have been mutually exchanged in several languages. In the province of Gascoigne in France, the natives substitute the letters B, and V, for each other, which occasioned Joseph Scaliger to say of them—"Felices Populi, quibus *bib*ere est *viv*ere."

If this learned antiquary does not think it worth his while to rescue the Londoner's peccadillos of pronunciation, yet of his ordinary words and expressions he sets up a bold defence. The use of redundant negatives, in "I don't know nothing about it," or "Worser and more worser;" and "Mought" for might—"Ax" for ask—"Fetch a walk"—"Learn" for teach—"Shall us"—"Summons'd" for summon'd.—"a-dry"—"His-self" for himself, and "theirselves" for themselves—"This here," "that there"—"Because why"—"Ourn, Yourn, Hern, Hisn"—"A few while"—"Com'd" for came—"Gone with," "went with,"—"gone dead"—have more said in their favour than Cockneys themselves would suppose; and the sneer of the *beau monde* is rebutted by the sanction of respectable men, who gave the *ton* to our great, great grandfathers. In some instances, indeed, the Cockney appears, without perhaps being conscious of it, to have kept nearer to the true etymology, and to have more closely followed the genius of our language than even the Courtier. Let the matter, however, turn out as it may; by thus adverting to their etymology, which is in fact, as Mr. Pegge terms it, *the history of words*, and by considering their parentage, intermarriages, and collateral family-connections, we shall obtain some correct notions of the nature of our language, and be better enabled to perfect its grammar. The antiquary, in a difficult case, thus compromises the differences between the Courtier and the Cockney:

'His-

'HIS-SELF for HIMSELF.
THEIR-SELVES for THEMSELVES, &c.

'A Courtier will say—"Let him do it *him*self;" but the Cockney has it,—"Let him do it *his*-self." Here the latter comes nearest to the truth, though both he and the Courtier are wrong; for the grammatical construction should be—"Let *he* do it *his*-self,"—or, by a transposition of words, better and more energetically arranged—"Let *he his-self* do it." It must be allowed, that the Londoner does not use this compounded pronoun, in the mode before us, from any degree of conviction; he has fortunately stumbled upon a part of the truth which the Courtier has overleaped. But, throwing aside the correct phraseology, and confining ourselves to the received mode, let me observe how incongruous our combined pronoun appears in this situation. Of these double personal pronouns, as I may call them, the nominative in the singular number is *my*-self, and not *me*-self; and in the second person it is *thy*-self, and not *thee*-self;—why then shall the accusative in the third person (viz. *him* self) be received in the Polite World, and by both the Universities, into the place of the nominative "*his*-self?" It is the same with us in the plural number; for we very conveniently, make the word "*them*selves" serve our purpose both in the nominative and in the accusative; while, on the other hand, the Cockney is right in his plural nominative "*their*-selves," and only errs when he uses the same word for the accusative.

'Dr. Johnson unguardedly, but very obligingly for me, admits "*his*-self" to have been *anciently* (though he goes but a very little way back for his authority) the nominative case of this double pronoun, and quotes the words of Algernon Sydney—"Every of us, each for *his*-self." Time will not subvert a real nominative case, however incongruously it may be abused; and I wonder that Dr. Johnson should doubt for a moment, and (as his word *anciently* implies) ever suppose otherwise.

'Dr. Wallis, who published his grammatical work in 1653, lays the charge of vulgarity upon the *Courtier*, and acquits the *Cockney*,—"Fateor tamen," says he, "*him*-self et *them*selves vulgo dici pro *his*-self et *their*-selves."

'Now, Sir, this matter might, upon the whole, be brought to a very easy compromise, if the *Cockney* would but adopt the *Courtier's* "*them*-selves" for his accusative, and the *Courtier* would condescend to accept the *Cockney*'s accusative "*their*-selves," instead of his own nominative "*them*-selves."

'The like exchange would as easily reconcile them in their uses of the singular number;—for let the *Courtier*, instead of saying "He came *him*self," use the *Cockney*'s expression "He came *his*-self;" and on the other hand, in the place of "He hurt *his*-self," let the Cockney say (with the Courtier) "He hurt *him*self"—and all would be well, according to the present acceptation of these phrases, and these jarring interests be happily accommodated; but I am afraid that the obstinate and deep-rooted principles of education on one hand, and of habit on the other, must forbid the exchange.

'I am sensible that it is accounted elegant and energetick language to use "*him*-self" nominatively when intended to enforce personality, as in the following two examples:

"*Him*self hasted also to go out."
"*Him*self an army."

'No one, I believe, will be hardy enough to vindicate this as grammar; but it is allowed in all arts to break through the trammels of rule to produce great effects.'

Mr. Pegge has so managed his defence of *Londonisms*, as not to controvert Quintillian's principle respecting language,—*Consuetudo sermonis est consensus eruditorum.*

In the *Additamenta*, are some judicious strictures on the Dictionary of Dr. Johnson; who, it is truly observed, not aware of the authenticity of dialectical expressions, has been guilty of many omissions, and blundered in his etymologies. Mr. Pegge is induced to believe that more may be said in support of the *Poticary* of the Cockney, than the *Apothecary* of the learned and fashionable world, which has usurped its place:

'APOTHECARY.

'Henry Knighton, who lived about 1393, had the word *Apothecarius*.

'Dr. Johnson says, from *Apotheca*, a repository: and that it means "a man whose employment is to keep medicines for sale; Greek Αποθηκη."

'Chaucer, who wrote before the introduction of Greek, writes "*Potecary*." Chaucer died in 1400. (N. B. Greek known in England, 1453.)

'In the Liber Niger Dom. Reg. Angliæ, temp. Edward IV. who reigned from 1461 to 1483, it is written *Poticary*.

'Stevens's Dictionary has *Boticario*, and derives it from *Bote*, a gallipot. *Botica* is a shop in Spanish (French *Boutique*), but emphatically the shop of an Apothecary.

'The *A* may be our article, which use has added to the word, together with the article *an*, which is a pleonasm.

'*Per contra*, we have appellatives, which by withdrawing a letter from the word *per aphæresin* in the article, has absorbed it, as—from *anaranja*, we have formed *an orange*.—*Avanna*, we call *a fan*, which should be termed *an avan*; from *Abeli*, we say *a lily*: so, by dropping the A entirely, we have made *saffron* from *assafran*: all from the Spanish. Not content to say *a Boticario*, or, Anglicè, *Boticary*, but we must double the article and say *an Aboticary*.

'Junius calls it *vocabulum sumptum ex Græco*; but adds, *minus commodè*; and refers us to Vossius, lib. I. de Vitiis Sermonis, c. 32.

'Apothecaries anciently sold wine and cordials.

"The Emperor is somewhat amended, as his *Poticarie saith*."

'A Bookseller who keeps a shop (a *Bibliotheca*), might as well be called a *Bibliothecary*.

'Perhaps

'Perhaps the *Poticary*, or *Boticario*, was so called, to distinguish him from the itinerant Medicine-monger; for I am willing to suppose there have been Quacks as long as there have been regular men in the profession of Physick.

'Apollo was little more than an Empiric; for it was one of his inferior occupations. Opifer *per orbem.* His son Æsculapius was a Physician.

'Q. If Apollo by the term *Opifer* was not a midwife? The Apothecaries proud of the connexion, by his figure in Dutch tile in their shops.

'In the Comedy of the Four P's, by J. Heywood, published 1569, one of them is the *Poticary*; and I never heard that he was arraigned by the Critics for Pseudography. They are the *Pothecary*, the *Pedlar*, the *Palmer*, and the *Pardoner.*

'Mr. Nares says, that *Potecary* is very low; and so it is to our ears at present.

'You might as well say that *periwig* is Greek, from Περι circum (Græcè), and *wig* (Anglicè); whereas it is only unfortunately a corruption of the French *peruque.*

'The *Boticario* (or Poticary) was perhaps to the *Quack*, who carried his medicines about for sale, as the *Stationer* (or shop-keeper) was to the Hawker and Pedlar.'

We have a hint, also, on the improper use of the words "*Compliments*," and "*wait upon*," by polite people:

'COMPLIMENTS

'Seem to mean *Comply-ments*, and therefore cannot be used in the first instance of an invitation; as it rather appears to be the language of the *Invité* than of the *Inviter.* A asks B to dine with him.—B returns for answer, that he will *comply* with A's invitation. *Compliments*, therefore, ought to be the cardinal word of Ceremony in the return, and not in the request.

"A good morrow morning to you;" an evening compliment, which I have heard made use of, as well as a morning one.

'WAIT UPON.

'The answer to an invitation from A to B is, that B will do himself the pleasure of *waiting* upon A. This is contrary to all the rules of etiquette; for A, at whose house the scene is to lie, is bound to *wait* upon B, his guest. I remember when the language was, that *A* should say to B, on inviting him to his house, "that he would be very happy to *wait* upon him in St. James's Square." Every man is to *wait* upon his *guests*, by himself, or his sufficient deputy, and not *they* upon *him.* In the first instance to *wait* means to *attend upon:* just the reverse of the French *attendre*, which signifies to wait *for*, or expect.'

Whether the fashionable world will take the hints here given by our deceased antiquary, to correct their expressions, and to guard against the perversion of grammar, we cannot pretend to say: but of this we are confident, that, if they read

his essay, they will be amused by the playfulness of his verbal criticisms, and by the various anecdotes with which he has enlivened his pages.

Mo-y.

ART. IV. *General Zoology, or Systematic Natural History*, by George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S., &c. With Plates from the first Authorities and most select Specimens, engraved principally by Mr. Heath. Vol. V. 2 Parts. pp. 463, ninety-six Plates. 2l. 12s. 6d. Boards. Kearsley. 1804.

THE first part of this volume includes the abdominal, and the second is occupied by the cartilaginous order of fishes. The genera belonging to the first are, according to Dr. Shaw's arrangement, *Cobitis*, *Anableps*, *Amia*, *Silurus*, *Platystacus*, *Loricaria*, *Salmo*, *Acanthonotus*, *Fistularia*, *Esox*, *Polypterus*, *Elops*, *Argentina*, *Atherina*, *Mugil*, *Exocœtus*, *Polynemus*, *Clupea*, *Cyprinus*, and *Mormyrus*. Thus, with the exception of *Teuthis*, which had been previously proscribed by Bloch and La Cépède, all the Linnéan genera are retained; while *Anableps*, *Platystacus*, and *Acanthonotus*, are introduced on the authority of Bloch, and *Polypterus* on that of Geoffroy. The characters of *Anableps* are, head sub-depressed, mouth terminal, teeth small, on the jaws, eyes protuberant, with double pupils, and gill-membrane six-rayed.—The only species is the *Tetrophthalmus*, or *Cobitis Anableps* of Linné. We fear that Dr. Shaw has too much compressed the interesting details furnished by Bloch, relative to this singular animal.

Among the species of *Siluri*, *Hertzbergii*, *nodosus*, *bimaculatus*, *quadrimaculatus*, *erythropterus*, *fossilis*, *vittatus*, and *atherinoides*, are adopted from Bloch. The *Electricus* might have furnished a longer article, and have included the substance of Geoffroy's excellent paper on this species of Silurus. Though its Galvanic power be weaker than that of the Torpedo, the organ in which this power resides completely invests the fish.

Platystacus is characterized by the habit of Silurus, the mouth beneath, bearded with cirri, the body scaleless and depressed, and the tail long and compressed. It includes *cotylephorus* and *lævus* (*Silurus aspredo* Lin.), *verrucosus* and *anguillaris*.

To prevent confusion, it is proper to intimate that the author's *Loricaria costata* corresponds to the *Silurus costatus* of Linné, *L. cataphracta* to *Silurus cataphractus*, *L. callichthys* to *S. callichthys*, and *L. accipense*, and *dentata*, to *L. cataphracta*. Dr. Shaw's *punctata*, or speckled Loricaria, is the *Cataphractus punctatus*

punctatus of Bloch; a small but elegant species, and a native of the rivers of Surinam.

The Linnéan species of *Salmo* are all retained, except *Anastomos. Cyprinus dentex*, *Clupea sterniculus*, and *Clupea villosa*, are removed to the same genus; *phinoc* and *salmulus* are borrowed from Pennant; and *alpinus*, *tumbil*, *falcatus*, *fasciatus*, *Friderici*, *melanurus*, and *edentulus*, from Bloch. The *ode* of the latter is here designed *fulvus*.—The prolonged upper jaw of the *Lavaretus* might have convinced our discerning zoologist, that it is perfectly distinct from the Welsh Gwiniad. The characters which Pennant ascribes to the latter coincide with those of the *Salmo Wartmanni* of Gmelin and Bloch.

Acanthanotus is distinguished from *Salmo*, by an elongated body, destitute of a dorsal fin, and several spines on the back and abdomen. The only known species is the *nasus*, or *snouted*, a native of the East Indies.

Under *Esox* we find *Malabaricus* from Bloch, and *Chirocentrus*, *Chinensis*, *aureoviridis*, *becuna*, and *Cepedianus*, from La Cépède. The last mentioned author, who delights to multiply genera, includes the *Chinensis*, *aureoviridis*, and *becuna*, under *Sphyræna*, and the *Cepedianus* under *Lepisosteus*.

The interesting nature of the following article will sufficiently apologize for quoting it at length:

'POLYPTERUS. POLYPTERUS.

'*Generic Character.*

Membr : branch : uniradiata.	*Gill membrane* single-rayed.
Pinnæ dorsales numerosæ.	*Dorsal fins* numerous.

'NILOTIC POLYPTERUS.

Polypterus Niloticus. *P. viridis, abdomine nigro maculato.*
Green Polypterus, with the abdomen spotted with black.
Polyptere Bichir. *Geoffroy. Annales du Museum d'Histoire Naturelle*, 1. *p.* 57. *pl.* 5.

'The fish which constitutes this new and highly remarkable genus appears to have been first scientifically described by Mons. E. Geoffroy, who considers it as forming in some degree a connecting link between the osseous and the cartilaginous fishes. Mons. Geoffroy's observations relative to its form and nature may be found in the Work mentioned at the close of the specific character.

'In point of general affinity it seems most nearly allied to the genus Esox, and especially to those species which are furnished with large, strong and bony scales. Its shape is long and serpentiform, the body being nearly cylindrical: the head is defended by large bony pieces or plates, and the body covered with large and strong scales, very closely affixed to the skin, so that it may be considered as in some degree a mailed fish: the pectoral and ventral fins, but particularly the former, are attached by a sort of strong and scaly base or cubit, allowing the same kind of motion as in those of the genus *Lopius* among the cartilagi-

nous

nous fishes: the pectoral fins are placed immediately beyond the head; the ventral at a vast distance beyond it, the abdomen in this fish being of a very unusual length: the anal fin is seated at some distance beyond the ventral, very near the tail, and is of an ovate, but slightly pointed shape: the tail, which is rather small and short for the size of the animal, is of a rounded or ovate form, and consists only of soft, strait, articulated rays, so disposed in the membrane as to allow but little freedom of motion in this part: at a small distance beyond the head, along the whole length of the back, runs a continued series of small dorsal fins, to the number of sixteen, seventeen, or eighteen, the number varying slightly in different individuals: each of these fins is of an ovate shape, upright, or but very slightly inclining backwards, and is furnished with a very strong spine at its base or origin, while the remaining part consists of four or five soft and branched rays, connected by their uniting membrane: the first or spiny ray, at about two thirds of its height from the base, sends off a small secondary point or spine: the lateral line commences at a small distance from the gill-covers, from which it slightly descends for a small space, and then runs strait to the tail: the eyes are small and round: the mouth of moderate width; the jaws furnished with a row of rather small and sharp teeth, and the upper lip with a pair of small and short tentacula at its tip: the vent is placed very near the tail, at the commencement of the anal fin: the branchial aperture is large, and in place of a membrane there is only a single bony plate or semicircular arch. The usual length of this fish is about eighteen inches, and its colour sea-green, paler or whitish on the abdomen, which is marked by some irregular black spots, more numerous towards the tail than towards the head: in the pectoral fins are usually about thirty-two rays; in the ventral twelve; in the anal fifteen; and in the tail nineteen. The stomach is long and large, measuring about four inches and a half; the liver long, and composed of two unequal lobes: the swimming bladder double, and loose; the ovaries long, and the eggs about the size of millet-seeds.

'This fish is known to the Egyptians by the name of *Bichir*, and is considered as a very rare animal: it is supposed in general to inhabit the depths of the Nile, remaining among the soft mud, which it is thought to quit only at some particular seasons, and is sometimes taken in the fishermen's nets at the time of the decrease of the river. It is said to be one of the best of the Nilotic fishes, having a white and savoury flesh; and as it is hardly possible to open the skin with a knife, the fish is first boiled, and the skin afterwards drawn off whole.'

The two species of *Atherina*, not included in Gmelin's edition of the *Systema Naturæ*, are, *Sihama*, and *Pinguis;* the first noticed by Forskal, and the second by La Cépède, from Commerson's MSS.—Owing to some oversight, here is an obvious confusion of the titles in the text and those which are given on the plates.

The additions to *Mullus* are, the *Malabaricus* from Russel, *Tang* and *Plumieri* from Bloch, and *Cæruleomaculatus* from La Cépède.

Under

Under *Exocœtus*, *Mesogaster* is quoted from Bloch, and *Commersonii* from La Cépède. The *non volitans* of Forskal is omitted, perhaps as a doubtful species. The *exiliens*, or Mediterranean flying-fish, is thus described:

'It is chiefly observed in the Mediterranean and Atlantic seas, where, according to an ingenious naturalist, "it leads a most miserable life: in its own element it is perpetually harassed by the Dorado and other fish of prey; and if it endeavours to avoid them by having recourse to the air, it either meets its fate from the Gull and the Albatross, or is forced down again into the mouth of the inhabitants of the water, which keep pace with its aerial excursion." This however ought to be considered as an exaggerated representation of the creature's state of existence, since, by the admirable balance ordained by Nature, the weaker animals have powers of escape in exact proportion to their danger*.

'It should be observed that this power of flight or temporary skimming through the air to a considerable distance, is not entirely confined to this genus, but takes place in some species of the genus Scorpæna, as well as in that of Trigla, &c. as the reader may perceive in recurring to the descriptions of those genera in the former part of the present work.

'The general length of the Mediterranean Flying-Fish is from twelve to fifteen or sixteen inches; and its general shape is not unlike that of a Herring: the body is subcylindrical, but with a slight approach to square, if a transverse section be supposed: the head is rather large, and sloping pretty suddenly in front: the mouth small, and edged on both jaws with minute, pointed teeth: the eyes large, and of a silver-colour with a cast of gold: the scales are large, thin, and rounded: the whole animal is of a bright silver cast, with a blue or dusky tinge on the upper part: the fins are also of a dusky colour: of these the pectoral extend as far as the beginning of the tail, and are of a sharply lanceolate form: the dorsal and anal fins are shallow, and placed opposite each other near the tail, which is deeply forked with sharp pointed lobes, of which the lower is nearly twice the length of the upper: the ventral fins are rather large, of a lengthened and pointed shape, and situated a little beyond the middle of the abdomen towards the anal fin: on each side of the lower part of the abdomen runs a kind

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'* To this purpose I may quote the observation of an ingenious gentleman (Capt. G. Tobin) who has had frequent opportunities of observing the habits of the Flying-Fish, and who thus expresses himself in a note annexed to a drawing of this species observed about the coasts of Otaheite. "The lower half of the tail, in the Flying-Fish, is full twice the length of the upper: the use of it has always appeared evident to me. I have by the hour watched the Dolphins and Bonitos in pursuit of them, when, without wholly immersing themselves, which would have proved fatal to them, they have disposed in their progressive motion the lower part of the tail in such a manner as to supply their wings with moisture, so as to support them above the surface. I never saw one exceed the distance of an hundred yards in its flight, without being obliged to dip for a fresh supply."

of

of carina or lateral line formed by a series of small, inclining points, or spicules.

'This species is frequently observed in the Mediterranean, sometimes singly, and sometimes appearing in small shoals. Instances are not infrequent of its falling into ships during the decline of its flight. It is considered as an agreeable fish for the table, and by some is even preferred to the Herring. The general height at which it is observed to exercise its flight is about three feet above the surface of the water.'

In ascribing the frequent dipping of these springing fishes to the dryness of their fins, Dr. Shaw repeats the assertions of very respectable naturalists. M. Bosc, however, who has had occasion to observe and study their motions, affirms that those which alight on ships in the midst of summer, and near the tropics, and which frequently die about fifteen minutes after having emerged from the water, preserve their fins quite flexible for half an hour after death. Dr. S. is likewise silent with respect to the humming noise of the Flying-Fish; which has usually been attributed to the movement of its fins, but which is found to proceed from the air that is expelled from the cavities of the body, and that strikes a peculiar membrane, or drum, on the sides of the mouth. The French author, cited above, makes mention of a large flying-fish, which fell unhurt on a parcel of hay, and emitted this sound for eight or ten minutes, when it died.

Polynemus Niloticus is the *Binni* of Bruce. *P. Indicus* and *P. Tetradactylus* correspond to the *Maga Booshee* and *Maga Jellee* of Russel. The *Decadactylus* is a species characterized by Bloch; *Commersonii* is the synonyme of La Cépède's *Lineatus*, and *Plumieri* is the *Polydactylus Plumieri* of the same author.

The genus *Clupea* is augmented by the *Malabarica*, *Africana*, *Sinensis*, and *Nasus* of Bloch, and the *Tuberculata*, *Chrysoptera*, *Fasciata*, and *Macrocephala* of La Cépède.

The account of the common herring is far from complete. The most circumstantial passage, which respects its supposed migrations, is copied from Pennant, as it might have been from Anderson: but the arguments, which have been recently advanced in opposition to the popular notions, are very slightly stated. Some observations might likewise have been introduced on the apparently capricious disappearance of this fish from certain districts, for a course of years, and the uniform difference of quality between those which frequent the opposite shores of our own island. We could, moreover, have wished for some details concerning the Dutch modes of fishing and curing herrings, and the causes which have hi-

therto prevented the English and Americans from adopting them.

The Pilchard is thus discriminated from the Herring:

'It is of a somewhat thicker or less compressed form, with the back more elevated and the belly less sharp; the nose rather shorter in proportion and turning upwards, and the under jaw shorter: the scales are considerably larger than in the Herring, and are pretty strongly fixed; those of the Herring, on the contrary, being very easily displaced. A still more remarkable difference consists in the situation of the dorsal fin, which is placed exactly in the centre of gravity, so that when the fish is taken up by it the body preserves an equilibrium; whereas if the Herring be taken up by the same part, the head will be observed to dip considerably: to these differences it may be added that the Pilchard is in general of inferior size to the Herring, and rarely measures more than about eight inches in length: its colour is bright silvery, with a green or bluish cast on the upper parts.'

In his account of the Thrissa herring, the Doctor might have remarked that it frequently proves a poisonous food in the West Indies; owing, it is alleged, either to its having devoured the fruit of the Manchineel tree, or having fed in the neighbourhood of copper ore.

The genus *Cyprinus* is supposed to comprehend one half of the fishes which live exclusively in fresh water, and consequently furnishes a very large quantity of food to the inhabitants of inland countries. Yet the great number of its species, the difficulty of laying hold of the slight characters which discriminate them, the varieties to which even the same species is incident, and the perplexity of the names imposed by illiterate fishermen, have all contributed to impede its extrication, and to render it one of the most obscure subjects in ichthiology. Artedi first, and afterward Linné, made some laudable efforts to fix the species. Bloch improved on both, and illustrated his distinctions by excellent figures. Lastly, La Cépède has thrown additional light on this numerous and important tribe. Dr. Shaw has prudently availed himself of the labours of such able precursors, and has described about sixty species; a few of which, however, he suspects to be only varieties. Among the newly incorporated kinds are *Gibelio*, *Blicca*, *Pomeranicus*, *Fimbriatus*, *Cirrhosus*, *Falcatus*, *Quadrilobus*, *Tincaurea*, *Ferrugineus*, *Nigro-auratus*, *Viridi-violaceus*, *Punctatus*, *Amarus*, and *Clupeoides*.

On the method of feeding and managing Carp, we are presented with a long but interesting extract from Dr. Forster's paper, published in the Philosophical Transactions. The memoirs of the Parisian Academy of Sciences for 1733 might have supplied some curious notices on the anatomy of this fish; a

subject

subject which has employed the pen of many scientific and economical writers.

In his exposition of *Mormyrus*, an obscure genus, till investigated by Geoffroy, the author restores it to the abdominal order, from which Gmelin had removed it. The single-rayed Gill-membrane, and the aperture without a gill-cover, sufficiently warrant this arrangement. At the same time, it may be considered as a connecting link between the abdominal and cartilaginous fishes. 'M. Geoffroy observes that the body is compressed, and that the structure of the tail is unusual, being of a considerable length, and of a subcylindric and inflated appearance, on account of its containing the glands from which the oily matter along the lateral line is secreted: he also observes, that the stomach is strongly muscular; that the ovarium is single; and that the swimming-bladder is almost the length of the abdomen.'—The same naturalist has increased the number of species from three to nine. They all inhabit the Nile: but little is known of their modes of life.

The cartilaginous order comprehends *Petromyzon*, *Gastrobranchus*, *Raia*, *Squalus*, *Spatularia*, *Chimæra*, *Accipenser*, *Lophius*, *Cyclopterus*, *Balistes*, *Ostracion*, *Diodon*, *Cephalus*, *Tetrodon*, *Syngnathus*, *Centriscus*, and *Pegasus*; which are severally expounded, without regard to the distinction of *Chondropterygian* and *Branchiostegous*. These terms, we acknowlege, are sufficiently harsh: but they are consecrated by usage; and the division which they indicate is now generally recognized by most of the foreign Ichthiologists.—The additions to the Linnéan genera of this order, it will readily be perceived, are *Gastrobranchus*, *Spatularia*, and *Cephalus*.

In structure and habits, the several species of *Petromyzon* approach to the Eel, Serpent, and Worm tribes. Their internal conformation differs considerably from that of other fishes. The opening of the mouth is susceptible of changing its form at the pleasure of the animal; the teeth are hollow, having their base inclosed in a fleshy case, and not attached to the jaw; the tongue is crescent-shaped, with very small teeth on its edges; and the organs of respiration consist of fourteen little sacs, seven on a side, having each one orifice on the upper, and two on the under side. When the water has deposited its air in these pouches, it issues by the mouth, or by the spiracle at the nape of the neck; though more frequently it enters by the spiracle, and escapes by the outer aperture of the pouches. The same organs have the property of exhausting the air within the animal, and thus enabling it to adhere with singular tenacity to solid bodies by means of the mouth. The only solid part of this extraordinary fish is a long cartila-

ginous cord, which contains the spinal marrow. The alimentary canal has neither winding nor process; the heart is very large: but the ovaries are larger than all the internal organs taken together. Fishes of this genus are very tenacious of life, and can lose very considerable portions of their body without perishing. In this country, they are well known under the name *Lamprey*.

Bloch has supplied Dr. Shaw with the *Planeri* and *Argenteus*; and La Cépède has furnished *Ruber*, *Sanguisorba*, *Plumbeus* (*Sept-œil*), and *Bicolor* (*niger*).

As *Myxine Glutinosa* Lin. has been distinctly ascertained by M. Bloch to be a legitimate cartilaginous fish, Dr. Shaw has designed it *Gastrobranchus cæcus*. 'In its general appearance it bears a near resemblance to the Lampries, with which by Kalm, its first describer, it has been associated. It is remarkable for the total want of eyes, not the least vestige of any such organs being discoverable by the most attentive examination.'—The Dombeyan species inhabits the South American seas, was observed by M. Dombey, and has been described by La Cépède from the dried skin in the Paris Museum.

Though the account of the common Skate be rather short and unsatisfactory, the Rays, in general, are treated with felicity and copiousness. The generic characters and habits are ably stated; and the thirty-seven species, or varieties, which pass in review, are divided into four sections, viz. the *rhomboid*, *slender tailed*, *rounded*, and *lengthened*. A few Indian species are adopted from Russel; and La Cépède contributes *Eglanteria*, *Acus*, *Nigra*, *Picta*, *Undulata*, *Alba*, *Marginata*, *Tuberculata*, *Giorna*, *Fabroniana*, *Fimbriata*, *Sinensis*, *Thouiniana*, and *Cuvieri*.

The sting and cramp Ray form two amusing articles. The first is reckoned among the edible species. 'On account of the danger attending the wounds inflicted by the spine, it is usual with the fishermen to cut off the tail as soon as the fish is taken; and it is said to be illegal in France and some other countries to sell the animal with the tail still adhering. It is hardly necessary to observe that the spine is perfectly void of any venomous quality, though formerly supposed to contain a most active poison; and that the effects sometimes produced by it are entirely those arising from deep puncture and laceration; which, if taking place in a tendinous part, or among the larger nerves and blood vessels, have often proved fatal.'

Many interesting particulars relative to the Torpedo are extracted from the observations of Mr. Walsh, of the Royal Society of London, and from the description of the electric organs

gans by Mr. Hunter. These organs may be considered as a pair of Galvanic batteries, disposed in the form of hexagonal columns. If the animal be not irritated, it may sometimes be touched without being provoked to exert its Galvanic influence.

'The celebrated Spallanzani informs us, that some few minutes before the Torpedo expires, the shocks which it communicates, instead of being given at distant intervals, take place in quick succession, like the pulsations of the heart: they are weak indeed, but perfectly perceptible to the hand when laid on the fish at this juncture, and resemble very small electric shocks. In the space of seven minutes, no less than three hundred and sixty of these small shocks were perceived. Spallanzani also assures us of another highly curious fact, which he had occasion to verify from his own experience, viz. that the young Torpedo can not only exercise its electric faculty as soon as born, but even while it is yet a fætus in the body of the parent animal.'

The next genus, *Squalus*, includes the families of sharks, dog-fish, &c. which are all marine, and distributed into upwards of thirty species. In appearance and anatomical structure, they are nearly allied to the Rays, the flat form of the latter constituting the principal difference. We need not add, that they are distinguished by their great voracity. Dr. Shaw enters with much spirit into the history of the larger sorts, and adopts the *Philippinus*, *Spinosus*, *Squamosus*, *Denticulatus*, and *Punctulatus* from La Cépède. The long snouted species, or saw-fish, might, according to Mr. Latham's proposal, have been conveniently detached from the Squali, and formed into a distinct genus.

Only one species of *Spatularia*, namely the *Reticulata*, is known to the curious. The single spiracle on each side of the neck forms an obvious character.

The two species of *Chimæra* are more grotesque than horrible; and the colours of the northern, or *monstruosus*, are elegant.

Accipenser presents us with no new species. Of the Sterlet, it is observed that it is in very high request as an article of food. It 'is even considered as one of the most delicate of fishes. Sterlet-soup, it is well known, formed one of the favourite luxuries of that gigantic epicure Prince Potemkin of Russia, who in seasons when the fish happened to be unusually dear, was content to purchase it at a price so extravagant, that a single tureen, forming the mere prelude to his repast, stood him in the sum of three hundred rubles!'

Besides two or three species of *Lophius* described in the Naturalist's Miscellany, La Cépède's *Faujas*, (styled *Muricatus*,) and *Commersonii*, enrich the present exposition.

The

'The additions to *Balistes* are, the *Sinensis* and *Lævis* of Bloch, the *Liturosus*, a native of the Indian seas, observed by Captain Tobin, the *Sonneratii*, *Virescens*, *Fasciatus*, *Unimaculatus*, *Cinereus*, *Signatus*, *Punctatus*, and *Capistratus*, inserted on the authority of La Cépède, and the *Undulatus*, observed by Mr. Mungo Park.

'The Ostracions or Trunk-fishes are so strikingly distinguished by their bony crust or covering, that no difficulty can arise to the ichthyological student in referring them to their proper genus. The investigation of the species, however, demands a greater degree of attention, and such is the similarity between some of these, that it remains doubtful whether they should be considered as truly distinct, or as constituting mere sexual differences.'—The new species are *Concatenatus* and *Nasus*, from Bloch, and *Striatus*, described from a drawing by Captain Tobin.

In some measure, the genus *Diodon* connects fishes with spiny quadrupeds. The *Atinga*, or oblong Diodon, 'is considered as a poisonous fish, unless very carefully cleaned, and, according to Piso, if the least quantity of the gall should happen to mix with the flesh, it produces the most violent symptoms; the tongue becomes immoveable, the limbs stiffen, and a cold sweat ensues; followed by certain death, unless the poison be fortunately expelled by immediate medical aid.'—The *Plumieri* was first observed by Plumier, and the *Liturosus* by Commerson. La Cépède has described both.

We think that the propriety of placing the Sun-fishes under a distinct genus (*Cephalus*) is scarcely demonstrated:—but let the author speak for himself:

'The present genus is very strikingly distinguished by its unusual shape: the species composing it have hitherto been united with those of the genera of *Diodon* and *Tetrodon*. This led to great confusion, on account of an error in the Systema Naturæ, in which the short Sun-fish was referred to the genus *Tetrodon* instead of *Diodon*, in which latter, according to the Linnæan principles of arrangement, it should have been placed. Another species, described by Dr. Pallas, was also introduced into the Gmelinian edition of the Systema Naturæ, under the name *Diodon Mola*; so that the restoring the short Sun fish, even under a different title, to its true Linnæan genus, would but have increased the confusion.'

The *Tetrodon*, like the *Diodon*, has the power of inflating its body at pleasure, and erecting the small spines, which are dispersed over the sides and abdomen. *Spengleri*, *Honkenii*, *Oblongus*, and *Rostratus*, are quoted from Bloch, and *Stellatus*, *Punctatus*, and *Meleagris* from La Cépède.

Of the *Syngnathi*, the *Foliatus* is by far the most peculiar:

'FOLIATED PIPEFISH.

Syngnathus Foliatus. *S. olivaceo-nigricans, albido-punctatus, appendicibus foliaceis.*

Blackish-olive Pipefish, with white specks, and leaf-shaped appendages.

'A most extraordinary species; far exceeding all the rest of the genus in the singularity of its appearance, which is such as at first view rather to suggest the idea of some production of fancy than of any real existence. In its general shape it is greatly allied to the sea-horse pipe fish, but is considerably longer in proportion, or of a more slender habit: its great particularity however consists in the large leaf-shaped appendages with which the back, tail, and abdomen, are furnished: these appendages are situated on very strong, rough, square spines or processes, and were it not for the perfect regularity of their respective proportions, might be mistaken for the leaves of some kind of fucus adhering to the spines. The colour of the whole animal is a dusky or blackish olive*, thickly sprinkled on all parts, except on the appendages, with small round whitish specks, and accompanied by a kind of metallic gloss on the abdomen: the fins are soft, tender, and transparent. This curious species is a native of the Indian seas. The specimen represented in its natural size on the annexed plate was taken near the coasts of New Holland, and was sent, together with a second of exactly similar appearance, but of rather smaller size, to the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Baronet, President of the Royal Society, through whose polite permission it was engraved for the present work. Nothing particular seems to be known relative to its habits or natural history.'

Centriscus and *Pegasus* comprize a few species which are remarkable for their aspects and habits. Those which belong to the first are distinguished by a lengthened snout, a compressed body, carinated beneath, and united ventral fins. The characters of the Pegasi are, snout elongated, mouth beneath, pectoral fins large, ventral single-rayed, body depressed, mailed, with the abdomen divided into bony segments.—It might have been observed of *P. natans*, that it is found in a fossil state in the celebrated natural collection of petrified fishes, in Monte Bolca, near Verona.

We have now only to congratulate the judicious and elegant compiler of the present publication, on the conclusion of that part of his subject which, unavoidably, presents more difficulty than entertainment; and which, if we rightly surmise, is less congenial with his inclination and talents than those portions of the zoological system, which are more immediately connected with *Terra Firma*. We observe with pleasure that several peculiarities of expression, which we formerly took the

'* Perhaps greener in the living animal.'

liberty

liberty of noticing, have now disappeared; and we trust that the progress of the work will manifest still nearer approximations to perfection.

Muir.

ART. V. *The Narrative of Captain David Woodard and Four Seamen,* who lost their Ship while in a Boat at Sea, and surrendered themselves to the Malays, in the Island of Celebes; containing an interesting Account of their Sufferings from Hunger and various Hardships, and their Escape from the Malays, after a Captivity of two Years and a Half. Also an Account of the Manners and Customs of the Country, Description of the Harbours and Coast, &c. And an Appendix, containing Narratives of Escapes from Shipwrecks, under great Hardships and Abstinence; holding out *a Valuable Seaman's Guide,* and the Importance of Union, Confidence, and Perseverance in the midst of Distress. 8vo. pp. 252. 4s. Boards. Johnson.

To the design which is avowed in this publication, great praise must be ascribed. The editor, Mr. Vaughan, of a mercantile house in London, has collected within a short compass a number of the most remarkable instances of distress encountered by seamen, in which the sufferers have experienced benefit from the exertion of patience, fortitude, and obedience to the commands of their officers; and these are held out as encouraging examples to other mariners, who may unfortunately be reduced to similar difficulties.

The first and largest part of the volume is occupied with the account of the sufferings of Mr. David Woodard, and his companions, among the Malays, in the island of Celebes, and of their escape. The narrative is interesting, and is much recommended by the plain unassuming style in which it is related by Mr. Woodard. We must, however, remark a negligence in the title-page: Mr. W. was not captain at the time of his misfortune at Celebes; nor was the ship *lost;* and in both these circumstances, the want of precision in the title tends to impress the reader with a wrong idea. Mr. Woodard sailed on that voyage as chief mate of an American ship named the Enterprize; and being in the Strait of Macassar, he was sent with a boat and crew to endeavour to purchase provisions from a vessel which was discovered at some distance: on which service they *lost sight of* their own ship. (This happened on the 1st of March, 1793.) After a vain search, being destitute of provisions, they landed on the island of Celebes for relief, and there fell into the hands of the Malays.

Mr. W. and his companions remained long enough among the people of Celebes to become well acquainted with their language.

The variety of the treatment which they experienced from the savage dispositions of some of the natives, and from the compassionate kindness of others, gives a more familiar idea of these people than is to be obtained by any regular description which has appeared. They made frequent attempts to escape, which more than once they partially effected, so as to change their masters: for as often as they escaped from one Malay town or district, they were met and captured by the vessels of other Malays, inhabitants of Celebes.

These removals brought them at length within a short distance of the Dutch settlement at Macassar, which was their proposed place of refuge. The account of their final deliverance, not indeed from hard servitude, we shall give as an entertaining sample of Mr. Woodard's narrative.—After having escaped in a canoe from a town named Tomboo, they were again taken prisoners and carried to the town of Pamboon.

'The rajah of Pamboon then asked me (says Mr. W.) if I understood a musket well. Having experienced the inconvenience of owning it at Dungâlly and at Parlow, I answered him in the negative. He then showed me a hundred guns, and wanted me to stay to take charge of them; but I declined it. He then said that all white men understood them. I told him that sailors did not understand the musket, but that soldiers did; and that I was not a soldier. He then asked me if I would not have a wife, and remain there. This I refused. His wife, who was a young girl, came and sat down near me; at the same time telling the rajah, that she should be glad to see a white child. She then asked me to sleep with her. To this also I told her "No." She then called her sister, and about twenty other girls, and causing them all to sit down, desired me to take my choice. I told her "None;" and, rising up, wished her a good night, and went out of doors, where they soon brought me some supper. After supper we lay down, and slept on the ground the remainder of the night, and were guarded by about twenty people.

'In the morning I again waited upon the rajah of Pamboon; and, speaking the Malay tongue very well, I begged that he would send us to Macassar. I assured him that the governor had sent for me, and that I must go there as soon as possible. I at the same time told him, that, if he detained me, the governor would stop all his proas at Macassar. After thinking on it a short time, he called the captain of a proa that was bound there, and delivered me and my men to him, telling him at the same time, that if he could get any thing for us, he might take it; if not, that he might let us go.'

They arrived at Macassar on the 15th of June 1795, and were treated with great humanity by the Dutch Governor, William Pitts Jacobson, and by other gentlemen in the Dutch settlements; which Mr. Woodard has gratefully acknowleged, both in his narrative, and by letters written to his benefactors. The

editor seems entitled to a share of the commendation merited on this score, but should he not have forborne his claim?

Some interesting particulars of information concerning the island of Celebes, its produce, the harbours and towns along the western coast, the inhabitants, and their customs, are given by Mr. W. as an appendix to his narrative.

The latter part of this volume contains the other cases of distress which Mr. Vaughan has selected for examples. The greater number of these are extracted, in as brief a manner as could be done consistently with the design of the work, from well known narratives. There are some, however, which have not before been made public.

We here meet with the following observation and fact, which cannot be too generally known to sea-faring people:

'Dr. Franklin has advised, when a scarcity of water at sea occurs, that mariners should bathe themselves in tubs of salt water; and that he had observed, that, however thirsty he had been before his immersion into water for the amusement of swimming, he never continued so afterwards; and recommends the apparel of sailors being dipped in the sea, with a confidence of there being no danger of catching cold.'

A narrative is here also quoted, of the loss of a ship coming from the West Indies bound for Whitehaven, in 1768, commanded by Captain Kennedy; who, after having related the distress which he and his people had endured, thus writes:

"I cannot conclude without making mention of the great advantage I received from soaking my clothes twice a day in salt water, and putting them on without wringing.

"It was a considerable time before I could make the people comply with this measure; though, from seeing the good effects it produced, they afterwards, of their own accord, practised it twice a day. To this discovery I may with justice impute the preservation of my own life and that of six other persons, who must have perished but for its being put in use.

"The hint was first communicated to me from the perusal of a treatise written by Dr. Lind, and which I think ought to be commonly understood and recommended to all sea-faring people.

"There is one very remarkable circumstance, and worthy of notice, which is, that we daily made the same quantity of urine as if we had drunk moderately of any liquid; which must be owing to a body of water being absorbed through the pores of the skin. The saline particles remaining in our clothing became encrusted by the heat of our bodies and that of the sun, which cut and wounded our posteriors, and from the intense pain, rendered sitting very disagreeable. But we found, upon washing out the saline particles, and frequently wetting our clothes without wringing (which we practised twice a day), the skin became well in a short time: and so very great advantage did we derive from this practice, that the violent drought went off: the

parched tongue was cured in a few minutes after bathing and washing our clothes; at the same time we found ourselves as much refreshed as if we had received some actual nourishment."

We recommend this volume to public notice as a well intended, useful, and entertaining publication.

Capt. B...y.

ART. VI. *Rhymes on Art;* or the Remonstrance of a Painter: in two Parts. With Notes and a Preface, including Strictures on the State of the Arts, Criticism, Patronage, and public Taste. By Martin Archer Shee, R.A. 8vo. pp. 140. 5s. Boards. Ebers. 1805.

WE shall not say to Mr. Shee, *ne sutor ultra crepidam*, or "Mr. Artist, keep to your canvas;"—we cannot reproach him for being 'a truant from the pencil to the lyre,' since his skill in the management of both is indisputable. Very few of the moderns have cultivated the Muse with more striking success; and whether we regard the vigor of his conceptions, the appositeness of his metaphors, the elegance of his expression, or the nerve and flow of his verse, the author of the Rhymes on Art needs not shrink from a comparison with our most respectable existing writers. His poetry is not thin and flimsy, but may be compared to fine painting, in which a body of colour is used, and the figures protrude from the canvas in the boldest projections. He is so enthusiastic in his advocacy for the Arts, and diffuses that enthusiasm so attractively through almost every line, that we are in danger, while we read him, of catching the flame, and of being seduced to an adoption of his sombre thoughts on the subject. When, however, reason calmly resumes her seat, and the visions of poetry are succeeded by the views of cool judgment, we begin to suspect that this Remonstrance of a Painter is overcharged; and that the complaint, though captivating by its eloquence and address, is pushed to an extreme which real evidence will not justify. Is it a fact that the Painters of the present day are 'neglected, unsupported, and unemployed?' Is it true that 'the groves of taste produce no golden fruit?' Can it be said that 'the fine Arts, at the present moment, feel the effects of what Johnson calls "the general conspiracy of human nature against cotemporary merit," with *peculiar* severity?' When, indeed, it is admitted that 'the Arts in England have advanced beyond our hopes, and taken precedence of their age,' it is not very reasonable to suppose that they have laboured here under any gigantic oppression, or have been chilled by torpid indifference. We are entirely of opinion with Mr. Shee, that 'it is

the

the policy of a great nation to be liberal and magnificent, to be free of her rewards, splendid in her establishments, and gorgeous in her public works:'—we should receive cordial satisfaction in beholding the power and glory of our country recorded on the most splendid and sumptuous monuments, where the hand of genius and taste should be employed under the liberal patronage of a great people, for the purpose of transmitting to the remotest posterity, the brilliant periods of our history, and the names of those whose talents or valour have contributed to render them illustrious:—but, though we are not employed in erecting pyramids like those of Egypt, cloud-cap'd naval pillars, enormous colossal statues, nor a most superb national mausoleum; though the patronage of the Arts is not made a distinct object of Government; though the productions of old masters are held in extreme veneration, and picture-dealers amass greater fortunes than painters;—we are reluctant to admit that artists in this country are abandoned to penury and neglect, or that circumstances of peculiar discouragement repress the painter's exertions. All cannot succeed alike. In the departments of literature, science, and taste, some "roses will blush unseen, and waste their sweetness on the desert air." Some individuals, with talents meriting a better destiny, will die neglected; and works, which did not obtain bread for the author, will enrich the dealer: but the occurrence of these circumstances cannot be altogether prevented.

The patronage extended to artists in this country is general; it flows not from any particular establishment, but from the diffused wealth of the country. Are not artists usually well paid; and if they were to paint more for fame, and less for immediate profit, would they not eventually be remunerated *? If Sir Joshua Reynolds sleeps under a nameless stone, was he, while living, unremunerated, or unpatronized? Mr. Shee writes like a man whose mind has been soured; he looks *con mali occhi* at every thing that seems to withdraw the public attention from the Arts; and, adverting to the Royal Institution, he ventures to assert that 'the physical sciences have more than their share in the partition of public favour.' He laughs at the 'duck and drake dip in philosophy' taken by our gentlemen loungers, and laments that the accomplished belle of the present day

* Portrait-painting much prevails, in consequence of individual vanity; and historical and landscape painting is too much neglected. Our Exhibitions are disgusting by the number of portraits: but why do not painters exert their genius to remedy this evil? why will they not give the public something more deserving of their gaze and admiration?

should slight the muses and the graces for oxygene and hydrogene, for caloric and carbonic. In short, he cannot endure the thought of having even Science herself honoured above his favourite profession.

While, however, we in some measure resist these representations, we at the same time applaud Mr. Shee for his attachment. We shall indulge him with supposing that 'public apathy benumbs the powers of graphic skill;' and we shall not only allow him to exclaim

> 'Will no warm patriot take the Muse's part,
> And rouse his country in the cause of Art?' *

but shall venture to answer, that, if the country wants rousing, his poem must materially contribute to produce this effect. He informs us that the two parts, here published, compose the first book of an intended poem in four books, on the subject of Painting; and that 'the portion now offered to the public is detached without any great violence, as it is not so much a part of his plan, as an introduction to it, containing a Remonstrance in favour of pursuits which unfortunately have been latterly but little distinguished by public notice and protection.'

The subject is thus proposed:

> 'What various aids the student's course requires,
> Whom Art allures, and love of fame inspires;
> But chief, what toils demand his earlier hours,
> Prepare his triumphs, and unfold his powers,
> The muse attempts with beating bosom springs,
> And dares advent'rous on didactic wings.
>
> 'Too long our isle, though rich in stores of mind,
> Proud to be free, scarce deign'd to be refin'd;
> Still with a surly Spartan virtue frown'd,
> Nor sought to rival states for arts renown'd:
> But now no longer heedless we refuse
> The proffer'd garland of the Graphic Muse;
> Britannia binds her laurell'd brows once more,
> And adds the only wreath unwon before;

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* The complaint stands thus in prose:

'Our arts, indeed, have experienced the fate which was denounced against our liberties—they have been invaded from every port upon the continent,—over-run by a possé of picture dealers; and yet we have seen no *defence bills* passed for their protection—no *patriotic funds* appropriated to their use—no voluntary offers of service tendered throughout the districts of Taste: dangerous principles have spread in their very camp of defence, and all the corps of criticism are disaffected: our connoisseurs are become *catamarans* to blow up our own pretensions; and even the small craft of critics are proud to shew the *colours* of the enemy, and cruise against us on our own coasts.'

While

While nations long supreme in taste retire,
Confess her claims, and in their turn admire.'

With indignation, the poet repels the reflection which has been thrown on our climate, as unpropitious to the exertions of genius:

'Yet while supine our gentler genius lay,
And war and commerce bore exclusive sway;
Ere Taste her orb from Latium had withdrawn,
Or yet the cliffs of Albion caught the dawn,
Coxcombs, exulting dar'd her powers despise,
Aspers'd her sons, and slander'd e'en her skies:
But now no more th' injurious taunt is thrown;
Her arts, triumphant as her arms, are known;
Arous'd, her genius soars on wing sublime,
Asserts her taste, and vindicates her clime.
Insult! to think the land where Shakspeare sprung.
The heav'n *he* breath'd—where seraph Milton sung!
In strains more sweet than erst from fabled shell
Of Orpheus old, or fam'd Amphion, fell:
Where Pope, where Dryden swept the sounding lyre,
With Maro's melody, and Homer's fire!
Where Science, (long on weak Conjecture's wing,
A thwarted falcon, flutt'ring from the string,)
Loos'd by her Newton's hand, first shot on high,
And perch'd amid the mansions of the sky:
Insult! to think, where valour, virtue sway!
Where beauty sheds around her brightest ray!
Where Reason boasts how Locke—how Bacon shone!
And triumphs on her philosophic throne:
Insult! to think this garden of the globe,
This spangle shining bright on Nature's robe!
From finer joys in cold seclusion plac'd,
A kindless clime beyond the beam of taste!
On wings of fire sustain'd, th' immortal mind,
Nor clime controls, nor fog, nor frost can bind.
Where freedom, man's most cheering sunshine, glows,
Whether on Libyan sands, or Zemblan snows;
Where life exults, with each bold feeling fraught,
And fancy fearless springs the mine of Thought:
There, blooms the soul, there, every muse delights,
Swells her full strain, and soars her highest flights:
Luxuriant there, from moral roots arise
Pure joys which compensate inclement skies;
Spontaneous sweets that torrid tracts endear,
Redress the cold, and calm the raging year.

'To Albion's view what mental glories rise!
Though winter rudely revels in her skies;
Though fogs engender there, and frosts deform
The agu'ish clime, an intermitting storm;

The

The orb of genius cheers her hardy sons,
And bright through every sign of science runs,
Pervades with ripening ray each art refin'd,
And glows through all her atmosphere of mind.'

The qualifications of the painter, and the arduous nature of his undertaking, are thus happily sketched, and impressed on the mind of the young artist:

'Of all th' advent'rous spirits who disdain
To plod in dull content, life's level plain,
The painter only with the poet dares
An equal flight, and combats equal cares;
Alike aloft, their arduous progress lies,
O'er shoreless seas, amid unshelter'd skies;
Where, dread expanse! fierce-driving tempests blow,
And only genius shuns the gulf below:
Where fools half fluttering and half floating still,
Who flounder on against Apollo's will,
Become the general jest, the vulgar game,
And sink at last beneath a weight of shame.

'Who boldly then the common track depart,
Toil after fame, and take the paths of art;
Ye finer souls! in Fancy's eye who see
Whate'er young hopes, and sanguine hearts decree;
While yet unspell'd, unplighted you remain,
Pause, ere you join the art-enamour'd train;
Consult your powers, the fancied passion prove,
Nor transient liking take, for lasting love;
The nymph once wedded, you repent too late,
To change your fortune, or to check your fate;
When time shall tinge her beauties in your sight,
And all seem labour which was once delight;
From hope's fond dreams unwillingly awake,
When slow conviction whispers your mistake;
Then shall you wish some less advent'rous aim
Had fix'd you safe below the cares of fame;
To some obscure mechanic toil had sway'd,
Or left you humbly diligent in trade;
While foil'd ambition weeps his wasted prime,
And disappointment drags the load of time.
To gain th' immortal wreath of art requires,
Whate'er of worth, or Muse, or Grace inspires;
Whatever man, of heav'n, or earth, obtains,
Through mental toil, or mere mechanic pains;
A constant heart, by Nature's charms impress'd,
An ardour, ever burning in the breast;
A zeal for truth, a power of thought intense;
A fancy, flowering on the stems of sense;
A mem'ry, as the grave retentive, vast;
That holds to rise again, th' imprison'd past;

A feel-

A feeling, strong, instinctive, active, chaste;
The thrilling electricity of taste;
That marks the muse on each resplendent part,
The seal of nature, on the acts of art;
An eye to bards alone and painters given,
A frenzied orb, reflecting earth and heaven;
Commanding all creation at a glance,
And ranging Possibility's expanse;
A hand, with more than magic skill endow'd,
To trace Invention's visions as they crowd;
Embody thoughts beyond the poet's skill,
And pour the eloquence of art at will;
'Bove all, a dauntless soul to persevere,
Though mountains rise, though Alps on Alps appear;
Though Poverty present her meagre form,
Though patrons fail, and Fortune frown a storm.'

As we have sufficiently noticed Mr. Shee's enmity to 'the picture-panders,' who 'crush their country's arts by foreign aid,' we shall make no extract from that part of the poem in which he vents his resentment: but we cannot deny our readers his animated conclusion, in which he asserts the astonishing and unrivalled powers of the painter's art:

'The painter's eye, to sovereign Beauty true,
Marks every grace, and heightens every hue;
Follows the fair through all her forms and wiles,
Studies her airs, and triumphs in her smiles;
Imagines wondrous scenes as Fancy warms,
And revels, rich in all Creation's charms:
His art her homage, and his soul her shrine,
She rules his life, and regulates his line;
While rapt to frenzy as the goddess fires,
He pours to view the visions she inspires.

'Presented to the cultur'd eye of Taste,
No rock is barren, and no wild is waste;
No shape uncouth, or savage, but in place,
Excites an interest, or assumes a grace;
Whether the year's successive seasons roll,
Or Proteus passion paint the varying soul;
Whether, apart consider'd, or combin'd,
The forms of matter, and the traits of mind;
Nature, exhaustless, still has power to warm,
And every change of scene a novel charm:
The dome-crown'd city, or the cottag'd plain,
The rough cragg'd mountain, or tumultuous main;
The temple rich in trophied pride array'd,
Or mould'ring in the melancholy shade;
The spoils of tempest, or the wrecks of time;
The earth abundant, and the heaven sublime:
All, to the painter purest joys impart,
Delight his eye, and stimulate his art.

'From

'From sense reclaim'd to bliss of nobler birth,
He envies not the bustling sons of earth,
Who anxious climb the heights of wealth and power,
The care-cloth'd pageants of a restless hour;
For him, unlock the springs of finer joy,
The stores of soul—the sweets that never cloy;
Nature for him unfolds her fairest day,
For him, puts on her picturesque array;
Beneath his eye new-brightens all her charms,
And yields her blushing beauties to his arms;
His prize, and praise, pursu'd in shades or crowds;
He fancies prodigies, and peoples clouds;
Arrests in rapid glance each fleeting form
Loves the mild calm, and studies in the storm.'

In the notes subjoined to this passage, the author maintains the superiority of Painting over Poetry, and the argument is forcibly urged:

'Beyond the poet in the strength of his conceptions, as well as in the force and fidelity with which they are expressed, the painter is more alive to what passes around him; external objects take a stronger hold of his imagination; the impressions of beauty, of grandeur, of sublimity, sink deeper into his soul. His art, estimated according to its noblest examples, considered in every view of mental or manual ability, appears to be the most arduous enterprise of taste, and, without injustice to other pursuits may be termed the most extraordinary operation of human genius; in its theory and principles unfolding the most subtle refinements of the intellectual power, in its practice displaying the most dexterous achievement of mechanical skill.

'The only character indeed that can pretend to rank with the painter in the great scale of human ingenuity, is the poet; but, *he* has not been satisfied with equality, he has commonly contended for a higher station; and having been usually judge and jury in the cause, he has always taken care to decide it in his own favour. Yet an impartial investigation, by abilities competent to the task, of the powers displayed in both arts; of the qualities from nature and education which they respectively require, would perhaps amend the record, if not reverse the decree. What is there of *intellectual* in the operations of the poet, which the painter does not equal? what is there of *mechanical* which he does not surpass? He, also is one "cui sit ingenium, cui mens divinior." The "os magna sonaturum," indeed, is not his; but he has a language more general—more eloquent—more animated; as much more arduous in its attainment, as it is more extraordinary in its effects. Where their arts resemble, the painter keeps his level with the poet; where they differ, he takes a more elevated ground.

'The advantage which poetry possesses over painting, in continued narration and successive impression, cannot be advanced as a peculiar merit of the poet, since it results from the nature of language, and is common to prose.

'The eye of the painter is required to be as much more sensible and acute than the eye of the poet, as the accuracy of him who imitates,

should

should exceed that of him who only describes. What is the verbal expression of a passion, compared to its visible presence; the narration of an action, to the action itself brought before your view? What are the "verba ardentia" of the poet, to the breathing beauties, the living lustre of the pencil, rivalling the noblest productions of nature, expressing the characteristics of matter and mind, the powers of soul, the perfection of form, the brightest bloom of colour, the golden glow of light? Can the airy shadows of poetical imagery be compared to the embodied realities of art?

'Where the poet cursorily observes, the painter studies intensely; what the one carries loosely in his memory, the other stamps upon his soul. The forms and combinations of things, the accidents of light and colour, the relations of distance and degree, the passions, proportions, and properties of men and animals; all the phenomena of "the visible diurnal sphere," the painter must treasure up in his mind in clear, distinct, indelible impressions, and with the powers of a magician call them up at a moment's warning, like "spirits from the vasty deep" of his imagination,

"To do his bidding, and abide his will."

'From the nature of the medium through which the poet operates, he has an advantage over the painter which considerably facilitates his progress. As verse is constructed of language modified by number and measure, the poet may be said to pursue, in some degree, a prepratory course of study from his cradle; he never talks but he may be considered as sharpening his tools, and collecting his materials; his instrument is never out of his hands, and whether he reads, writes, or converses, he exercises his faculties in a way that appears to have a direct reference to his art, and to be a prelude to his performance.

'The painter, on the other hand, makes use of a medium that has no analogy to speech, no connexion with any of his ordinary habits or acquirements; his art speaks a language of the most uncommon construction, and most comprehensive influence: demanding the unremitting application of a life to produce that facility of expression—that fluency of graphic utterance, by which only, he can hope to address himself effectually to the passions and understandings of men.

'If to become familiar with the writings of the ancients, to comprehend their beauties, and compose in their language, be the proudest attainments of the scholar and the poet; how much more worthy of admiration is the skill of him who pours forth his ideas in the glowing language of Nature! who becomes familiar with all her beauties, who learns by heart all her characters, though numerous and varied, to an extent that reduces the amplitude of the Chinese tongue to a contracted alphabet; and who can trace them through all their combinations, from the simplest blade of grass in the field, to the most complex example of her power, in that alpha and omega of her hand —the hieroglyphic miracle, man.'

The powers of the painter and of the poet are both creative; and when employed under the inspiration of real genius, the effects

effects of both are eminently striking. In some instances, the painter has the advantage of the poet, and in others the reverse may be stated. If the former exceeds the latter in the exactness with which his conceptions are embodied, the latter often presents pictures to the imagination which the former cannot express by the utmost force of his art. The painter can only catch a particular instant, while the poet can exhibit the progress of an action; and though the artist may boast of the superiority of imitation over description, he must know that "the poet's eye in a fine frenzy rolling" often sees more than lines and colours can possibly exhibit. Which has the precedence, we shall not decide: but we shall hope that the partnership which has so long subsisted between poetry and painting will not now be interrupted.

By the specimens which we have adduced above, the character which we have given of Mr. Shee as a poet will be established. Some of his lines are exquisite; such as the following,

'Catch the cold drops that flatt'ry thaws from pride,'

in which the metaphor is perfectly preserved, and the picture intended to be drawn of a toad-eater to a great man is executed as it were by a single stroke. The greatest fault of Mr. Shee's verse is the continual recurrence of alliteration. We have not only 'rudely revels'—'sombre scene'—'golden gleam'—'alike aloft'—and 'hereafter here,' but also this line, which, from its alliterative property, it is difficult to read:

'With horn and hoof who ravage, rage, and spoil.'

We have also—'where wisdom wonder'd'—'brain-bound and bleak'—and 'little lustre life.'——As Mr. Shee had made use of the expression 'Atmosphere of mind,' we did not expect in the same poem to meet with 'Atmosphere of care.' These being trifling blemishes, they can easily be removed; and Mr. Shee will not be displeased with such hints for the improvement of his Muse.

If, after all, more reasons exist for Mr. Shee's lamentations than we are aware, we hope that his poem will excite the attention of the affluent portion of the public to the state of the arts; so that measures may be adopted to raise their drooping head, to direct our admiration to living genius, and to prevent the complaint that

——— 'patronage in picture-dealing dies!'

Mo.y.

ART.

ART. VII. *Modern Discoveries, &c. &c.* Vols. III. & IV. *Travels in Africa*, performed during the Years 1785, 1786, and 1787, in the Western Countries of that Continent, comprized between Cape Blanco in Barbary, situated in 20° 47′, and Cape Palmas in 4° 30′ North Latitude. Embellished with a general Map of Africa, corrected according to the most authentic and recent Observations; and several Plans, Copper-plates, &c. By Silv. Meinard Xavier Golberry. Translated from the French, without Abridgment, by Francis Blagdon, Esq., Professor of the French, Italian, Spanish, and German Languages. 2 Vols. 12mo. 14s. Boards. Ridgway.

A GLANCE at the map of Africa will sufficiently indicate how imperfectly Europeans are at present acquainted with this immense peninsula. Travellers, in attempting to penetrate its interior, have inflamed our curiosity, have created desires for farther research, and have induced a train of interesting speculations on the real state of this hitherto almost unexplored continent. When it is considered that the extreme length of Africa, (*i. e.* from Cape Aguillas, situated to the East of the Cape of Good Hope, and forming its most southern point,) to Cape Bon, (East of the Gulf of Tunis, which forms the most northern point of the Continent,) is reckoned to be seventy-six degrees, (French measure), which at 25 leagues to a degree is equal to nineteen hundred leagues;—that its mean breadth, according to M. Golberry, is eight hundred and forty-two leagues, giving a surface of 1,600,000 square leagues;—and that this vast portion of the globe has never been intersected by Europeans, whose inquiries have for the most part been confined to its coasts;—all the friends of valuable science must wish that some effectual means could be devised for obtaining full and accurate accounts of the several kingdoms, or states, which constitute the whole of African geography. Till Africa can be traversed from East to West, and from North to South; and especially till a journey be made by some intelligent and respectable persons, across the width of the peninsula from Cape Verd to Nubia or Upper Egypt; we can never obtain satisfactory information relative to the natural history, political state, and population of the interior.

Though our countryman Mr. Mungo Park has asserted that the Niger is a distinct river from the Senegal, and that the former is lost in the sands of the desert, and never empties itself like other rivers into the sea, Mr. Golberry is of opinion that 'many plausible reasons seem to render this intelligence *equivocal*.' He sarcastically mentions the populous and *mysterious* city of Houssa, which, according to Mungo Park, contains 800,000 souls; and, in spite of Park's avowed discovery, he

is disposed to regard the Senegal as a continuation of the Niger. If indeed Mr. Park's account be admitted, the Niger is the most singular stream in the Universe; differing not only from every European, Asiatic, and American river, but from every other great river in Africa. Considering the quantity of rain which falls on this continent during the wet season, and how vastly the Nile, the Senegal, and its other rivers are swelled, so as to inundate whole countries, it is scarcely credible that the Niger, which must also acquire at this period a great accumulation of water, should not then force its way to the ocean. The existence also of such masses of population, as the cities of Tombuctoo, Houssa, and Tocrur are said to exhibit, indicates a degree of fertility, cultivation, and improvement, of which our present intercourse with the Africans gives us no idea. We hear of extensive deserts, or oceans of barren, moveable sand, and of oases or fertile islands diffused with more or less profusion over the vast surface: but the position of these *Oases*, and the proportion which they bear to the whole extent, we have yet no means of ascertaining.

To force a way through this track would be impossible; for, supposing a small number of European troops to be equal to repell the natives, the want of water alone would probably effect the destruction of the whole party. The most practicable modes seem to be to adopt the Mohammedan dress and manner of living, and to travel with the caravans or slave merchants; or to engage negroes for an adequate gratuity to take the route in contemplation, to enter into treaties with the princes of the several states for the safe conduct of the party, to meet a certain number of Europeans in Upper Egypt, and to return with them to the banks of the Senegal. If such a plan could be executed, we might obtain details relative to the interior of Africa, which would enrich the science of nature with a variety of new subjects, and on which the fullest reliance could be placed.

For the present, we must content ourselves with those who explore regions in the vicinity of the coast; and who eke out the result of their own observations with probable conjecture, and the reports of those natives who are induced by trade to cultivate an intercourse with Europeans. M. Golberry, if his researches have not been carried to that ample extent which an awakened curiosity might require, has been a diligent, investigating, and, we must add, modest traveller; for he has given to the original work the title of "Fragments of a Journey in Africa." The journies which he made, in several principal countries of Western Africa, included between Cape Blanco and Cape Palmas, and comprizing the three districts which he has specified

cified to the French under the general denomination of the government of the Senegal, brought him acquainted with a considerable extent of this Continent; and though the district traversed by him bears a small proportion to the whole peninsula, the account which he has afforded of African scenery, (parts of which, we are assured, will vie in beauty with any tracks in Europe,) of animals, of vegetable and mineral productions, of the habits, manners, and superstitions of the different tribes, of the atmosphere and diseases, of the state of commerce, &c. &c. must cause his work to be perused with amusement as well as profit.

In his study of Nature and of Man, the author is not inattentive to the interests of religion and morals. While he pleads for the indulgence of criticism as a military man, he avows with satisfaction the motives by which he has been governed in the composition of his chapters:

'As a friend of morality, I am of opinion, that sacrifices are due to decency and good manners, especially in travels; and persuaded, that public and private happiness, and the prosperity and importance of a great nation, are incompatible with a contempt of religion, I have availed myself of those opportunities which are always afforded to those who write on nature and mankind, of reverting to the admiration of the Supreme Being.

'In Africa, as every where else, the impression of his greatness, power and goodness, is evident; and, notwithstanding what has been said, I have seen modesty, benevolence, probity, and amiable hospitality, among the number of native virtues: I have found the idea of a just and bountiful God, engraved in the heart and soul of the upright man; and even ignorant and savage hordes believe in one God alone, and implore his favour and protection. In short, my Travels have rendered me proof against the guilty and fatal errors of that false philosophy, which would persuade us that the universe, so admirable, when considered collectively or individually, is only the production of chance.'

At the commencement of his examination of the present continent of Africa, the traveller offers various reasons to support his belief in the former existence of the Atlantis, or of a continent of which the Azore, Canary, and Cape Verd Isles are the remains: but we shall not recur to speculations on those antecedent revolutions of Nature, to which we owe the superficial arrangement of the globe as we now behold it, since sufficient matter for reflection is afforded by the facts which offered themselves to his immediate notice. Entering Africa in that part of its western coast which is by this writer denominated the Government of Senegal, M. Golberry lays down with exactness the position of the Capes or projecting points of land, and minutely describes the large rivers, especially that of Senegal. To prejudice the reader in favour of this part of

the globe, or at least to remove the idea of its being devoted to uniform sterility, he sketches the landscape which presents itself between the Cape of Leopards and that of Sierra Leone:

'The space between those two capes forms the entrance to the river, the width of which is nearly 17 minutes, or seven leagues terrestrial measurement, and as it empties its waters forcibly into the sea, and its banks to the north being covered with extensive forests, bounded on the south by a chain of hillocks, ornamented with the richest verdure, the entrance to the bay forms one of the most romantic landscapes that can possibly be conceived, and highly pleasing to those whose souls are sensible to the beautiful charms and sublime appearances of Nature.

'On arriving at the entrance of this bay, one's attention is caught by a long valley which the river completely fills, leaving between its current and the woods and hills that compose its limits, only a space, at the utmost, of one hundred fathoms.

'On the right bank the soil appears to decrease; on the left bank it rises in the form of amphitheatres, covered with majestic trees, of a very remarkable strength and height, embellished with a rich, abundant, and variegated foliage. On contemplating these noble productions of Nature in a free, tranquil, and, as it were, virgin state, the mind becomes in a sort of ecstasy; for here Nature is still respected, and the venerable appearance of her time-worn productions renders them in some degree an object of religious adoration.

'Grateful for the sensations which I experienced, my soul returned thanks to the Creator, for having permitted such magnificent specimens of vegetation to originate on a soil, where they have grown peaceably and independent, and been able to preserve their primitive and simple forms; forms which art may be capable of varying, but can never hope to imitate.

'Those who delight in these tranquil and melancholy scenes, which lull the mind into a sweet contemplation; those who would wish to feel all the charms of the landscape afforded by the entrance to the river Sierra Leone, should arrive there in the month of April, about five o'clock in the afternoon: this was exactly the time when I entered the bay.'

As the author's account of the Government of Senegal under the French will not be particularly amusing to the English reader, we shall pass this part of the work. The religion of the negroes inhabiting western Africa, which is denominated *Fetichism*, is curious, as evincing the sad effects of ignorance combined with timid superstition; in the same manner as the confederation, or association of warriors, under the name of the *Purrah*, if we are to credit the relation here given, shews how far even nations of savages might be disciplined.

The peculiar formation of the mouth of the Senegal, the danger of passing the bar, and the caution which is requisite on this occasion, are stated with an attention which manifests

the author's solicitude to preserve the lives of those who navigate this part of the coast; and his general observations on this river give a tolerable view of the nature of the country:

'The extent of the Senegal, from its mouth to the cataract of the rock called Felow, is nearly two hundred and eighty leagues; though the distance, in a direct line, between this cataract, which is the period of the navigation of the French towards the interior of Africa, and the bar, is only a hundred and sixty leagues; but no river in the world is perhaps, subject to so many sinuosities, turnings, and circumvolutions.

'On proceeding from the rock Felow, as far as the sea, it is soon perceived that this river takes a meandering course into the countries: its general descent is very gentle, and every thing indicates, that the part of Africa contained between the eighth degree of eastern longitude from the isle of Ferro and the Atlantic Ocean, and between the twelfth and eighteenth degree of north latitude, is a very low country, and that the inclination of its level is almost imperceptible. The waters of the Senegal running over this generally sandy, light, and almost horizontal earth, are left to their full motion by the soils which they intersect, and are consequently drawn out of their regular direction by the slightest local circumstances. For instance, a thick wood, a bank of rocks, a vein of stone more tenacious and hard, or of earth more compact, quickly changes the direction of these waters, and makes them adopt such a zigzag course, that the river almost at every instant seems to be retrograding towards its source.

'In short, no other river whatever is so often subject to such unexpected windings and numerous circumvolutions: it retreats so often of its own accord, and its branches so frequently take directions the very reverse of that which it ought to pursue, that in the navigation of this river, either by sailing or towing, which latter is more common, the boats are incessantly obliged to change their tack; and in many instances it happens, that they are forty-eight hours in passing the contours of a peninsula, the gorge of which is only a piece of land twenty fathoms broad; and, after a voyage of two days, they find themselves exactly under the same meridianal point from which they had set out.

'This tortuous navigation makes an addition to the passage from isle St. Louis to Galam, of upwards of a hundred leagues; and the voyage up the Senegal, which can be made only during the rainy season, that being the time when the river swells, has always been considered as dangerous both to health and existence; for it is well known, that one-third of the Europeans who undertake this voyage, fall a sacrifice to its difficulties. In fact, the frequent turnings and windings of the Senegal form only a small portion of the inconveniences of this voyage; for those who undertook it have always been assailed and inconvenienced by the banks of sand, and rocky projections, which intersect the bed of the river; by enormous trees and large clumps of earth, which the waters detach and carry off; by hurricanes and storms, the intervals between which are perfect calms; by a burning atmos-

phere, which when agitated, is completely suffocating; by unexpected embarrassments arising from the carelessness and negligence of the negroes who man the boats, which cause endless disputes and negotiations with the princes and chiefs whose territories they pass through; by the unwholesome emanations from the blossoms of certain trees, that grow in great numbers on the banks of this river, and though their odour is agreeable, yet it causes shocking head-achs, and otherwise increases the dangers of this long navigation: but, by certain precautions, which are possible and practicable, the government might render this passage, in future, more safe and agreeable; and when this point is effected, the passage from isle St. Louis to Galam, would afford a mixture of pleasure and astonishment, and would be one of the most curious and interesting voyages that could possibly be made; for in these long and numerous contours, Nature has been incredibly prodigal in her most magnificent vegetation, as well as in every thing astonishing and agreeable, contained in her animal kingdom.

'In some of the parts which are passed, all the attractions are exhibited, which Nature possesses in her virgin state: in other points, one may admire the most striking effects produced by her maturity and antiquity, the trees of which are of a size and height which prove their extreme age, and excite a mixture of admiration and respect; for many prodigious specimens of vegetation are still handsome and green, and apparently wish to convince us, that in these solitary and fertile countries, Nature is always in her prime of life, but never superannuated.

'In every part of the river, where the water is shallow, are found a great number of caymans, and hippopotami of a most enormous size.

'The banks are the theatres for the ludicrous and aukward sport of a number of apes of different species, or of the innocent pleasures of antelopes, gazelles, kids and numerous other animals, whose manners are simple and agreeable; the trees are filled with birds, whose brilliant and singular colours charm the eye, and captivate the mind.'

The discussion of the gum-trade includes an account of the gum-tree, of the three great forests in which this article is furnished, and of the season and manner in which it is collected. The quantity of gum annually produced is stated at 2,000,000 lbs., which is brought to a kind of fair by the Moors, after preliminaries are settled between their chiefs and the merchants. Of this fair, a disgusting description is given by the traveller. The advantages resulting from the gum-trade are represented as fully compensating for all the unpleasant circumstances with which it is connected.

After having sketched the character of the Moors, M. Golberry proceeds to notice the Zahara, or Great Desert of Barbary, where the different tribes take up their residence; the smallest dimensions of which 'are 600 leagues long by 300 leagues broad.' The traveller has not himself examined this sandy expanse: but the particulars which he has collected are too curious to be passed over:

'It appears that at the present time there are thirty-two known oases, or habitable countries, in the Zahara, which have been rendered fertile by springs of fresh water. The largest of these oases are inhabited, different tribes of Moors having established themselves, and founded in them a sort of colonies: it is supposed that these colonies of Moors, which overspread the desert of Barbary, are seventeen in number. The other oases being not so large, only serve as points for the refreshment and rest of the caravans who travel through the Desert, as well as for the Moors who habitually perform such extensive journies.

'It is known that the caravans traverse the great desert of the Zahara in nine different and principal directions, and that the Moorish tribes who reside in it, pass over it at every point.'—

'The soil of the Zahara consists of fine sand, which is nothing but a mass of small and uncombined particles; these particles however, are not stony, like the elements of sand, but susceptible of petrification: the sands of the Zahara being composed of infinitely diminutive grains, are of a very great depth, and being agitated by the winds, in a manner similar to the waves of the sea, they are thus formed into mountains, which, from the same cause, are shortly after dispersed, and raised to a considerable height, till their expansion obscures the rays of the sun.

'On this sandy extent there may frequently be seen columns of sand resembling the water-spouts met with at sea: in short the nature of these sands is averse from combination, since in the whole of this vast Desert there are scarcely any rocks, and fertile countries are seldom discoverable in it.

'From the vast moving, dry and arid plains which border on the north of the Senegal, I have seen these sand-spouts arise in the form of columns, sometimes, advancing with rapidity, at others, proceeding with a majestic slowness, and affording a grand and magnificent spectacle. Their rapidity is sometimes so great, that they are scarcely perceptible, before they vanish to such a degree, as to resemble ribbons floating in the air at the pleasure of the wind, but the lower extremity of which always touches the earth; at other times, their upper extremities rise to such an immense height, that they are lost in the clouds: these spouts frequently break at a great elevation, and the immense volume of sand is dispersed through the atmosphere; at other times they break to appearance, in the middle, and the report occasioned by this rupture is similar to the explosion of a mine.

'One day in particular, I counted three of these spouts at the distance of about a thousand paces from each other: the diameter of the greatest seemed to be two feet, and the rapidity of all of them was prodigious.'

Vast as the Zahara is, compared in extent with some mighty kingdoms of Europe, it occupies no considerable portion of Africa. The author inclines to believe that it has not always been an unproductive and solitary desert; though no evidence exists to support his conjectures of its former fertility and population.

Some pages are employed in discriminating the different races perceptible among the Moors, in an account of their breed of horses, and in an enumeration of the singular qualities of the Dromedary. M. Golberry represents the Dromedary as an animal indispensably necessary to those who would make an expedition into the interior of Africa; and he advises the French Government to form a stud of Dromedaries, if any views are entertained of penetrating into this continent, of civilizing the natives, and of establishing any commercial connections among them. Golden motives are urged, to forward expeditions of this kind; some of the districts of Africa are said to be auriferous; and several mines are specified as containing an abundance of the most precious metal, which the ignorant natives are incapable of working to advantage. The whole hill of Natakon is described as an amalgamation of gold; and it is conjectured that, beneath its base, this metal might be found in great abundance, and in large masses. The negroes suppose the devil to be the manufacturer of gold; and when any men are destroyed by the falling in of the sides of the pits which they dig, they attribute the disaster to old Mulciber, who thus contrives to get an addition to his slaves below, employed at his forges and furnaces.

With the natural history of the Cameleon, the 2d volume commences. M. Golberry clearly ascertains that the changes of colour, which this animal exhibits, arise not from external objects, but from his internal feelings and sensations. He will not allow the Cameleon of courts to bear the smallest resemblance to the Cameleon of nature; who assumes no deceptive colours for the purpose of injuring his fellows, but on the contrary changes the tinges of its skin as indicating its own sufferings and afflictions. We think that M. Golberry's treatment of some of these delicate animals was too cruel, and that his experiments on starvation were carried farther than was necessary: but, having made this protest, we shall copy a part of the chapter:

'The fine green colour of the skin of this lizard, in its perfect state of health, causes it to be so far confounded with the leaves or grass in which it hides, that it is only discovered by chance: this beautiful colour is also its safeguard against those animals who would willingly hurt it, but are not able to distinguish or see it. This reptile therefore knows, that it is only by being confounded with leaves or grass, that it procures its food, and escapes its enemies: and, when deprived of these advantages by the loss of its liberty, being full of apprehension, terror, and fear, its life is only a torment; it becomes devoted to alarm and anguish, and a change is effected in its health, as well as in its natural colour.

'Hence,

'Hence, whenever I caught a cameleon, either in the grass or on the branch of a tree, I observed, that in a few seconds a sensible alteration took place, not only in its fine colour, but also in the size of its body.

'I placed the animal on the arid sand on the floor, or in a cage; and soon after it began to turn yellow: it also soon, and insensibly, expired the air with which it was filled, and thus it became contracted to such a degree, that the diminution in the size of its body was perceptible to the naked eye. But on replacing my cameleon in the grass, or on a branch, it gradually recovered its fine green colour, and its body attained the usual rotundity.

'When I kept my cameleons in a cage, and plagued or tormented them, I saw that they laboured under anguish and rage, which they sensibly expressed by expiring the air so strongly, that its force became audible; soon after which, these animals grew lean, and their fine colour was tarnished. On continuing to torment them, the dull green became a yellow-green, and afterwards a yellow, spotted with red; then a yellow brown, spotted with red-brown; next a brown-grey, marked with black: at length my cameleons adopted different shades and became gradually more thin. These were the only colours I could succeed in making them adopt.

'After I had thus tormented them, and kept them prisoners for several days, I used to set them at liberty. I conveyed them to the grass or a tree, and soon, notwithstanding their black and meagre appearance, they resumed their green colour and their corpulence.

'Hence, from reiterated proofs I convinced myself, that in a state of perfect liberty the cameleon is always green and fat, while a state of captivity alters its colour, and affects its health.'

In a journey by land, which this traveller made in 1786 from the isle of St. Louis to Goree, after having traversed a desert, he halted in the valley of the two Gagnacks; and the impression which the agreeable prospect afforded, when contrasted with the general aridness of the country, he endeavours to convey to his readers. This description we shall not transcribe, but shall content ourselves with stating the size of the most astonishing tree in the world, growing in this valley, called by the natives *Baobab*; which measures, at its base, *an hundred and four feet in circumference*, and has a cavern in its trunk twenty feet in diameter and twenty-two feet high. The description of the Baobab or Calabash tree occupies a considerable portion of a long chapter.

We have not regularly followed M. Golberry through the three districts into which the Government of the Senegal is divided by this author; because it would have extended the present article to an immoderate length, if we had specified the numerous objects which form the substance of the narrative. Though a long chapter occurs relative to Sierra Leone, we can merely refer to it.

Precautions are kindly given against the dangers of the climate of the part of western Africa that is situated between the 4th and 20th north parallels, to which those who visit this region may be induced to attend: but the chapter on the probable population of Africa affords matter more generally interesting. M. Golberry conceives the total of its population to amount to 160,000,000, and represents the climate and nature of Africa as tending to render its black inhabitants singularly happy:

'All the wants of the negroe, and all his pleasures, are satisfied without costing him the least trouble either in mind or body: his soul scarcely ever quits its peaceable indolence; alarms, uneasiness, and violent passions are almost entirely unknown to him; in consequence of his fatalism, he neither hopes for, nor fears any event, and submits to every thing without a murmur; in short his life passes in calmness and voluptuous carelessness, which constitute his supreme happiness: hence the negroes may be reckoned amongst the most favoured people of Nature.

'Such is part of the picture of the happy situation in which the negroe exists on his maternal soil. His mind being almost always tranquil and satisfied, is inaccessible to tedium, that fatal poison which afflicts only rich, enlightened, ambitious, and vain-glorious societies. Those men who come nearest to simple nature, are exempt from the fatal effects of this venom, which causes greater disorders and crimes than can well be imagined.

'Like children, the blacks of a mature age devote their attention for whole days together to futile occupations, and in conversations, which to us would appear only gossiping, but which, on that account, are inexhaustible: with such conversation these people incessantly amuse themselves, with a confidence and gaiety, of which our European societies scarcely afford an example.

'In all the countries which I visited, I saw those assemblies, that the Africans call palavers, or palabres, which were formed at sun-rise, and consisted of between thirty and forty blacks of all ages; they assembled either in a large hall, which they call the bentaba, or beneath the leafy branches of some large and beautiful tree in the village.

'They range themselves in a circle, and the oldest of the company begins the conversation, by reciting the little events of the preceding evening; but these become important, by the applications, reflections, and remembrances, to which they give rise.

'Soon afterwards the pipe makes it appearance; for the custom of smoking is doubtless general amongst all mankind: all these talkers smoke, not excepting the youngest of the company, and the prattling succeeds better on this account. The fumes of the tobacco enliven their brains, and increase their pleasure, as those of our delicate wines used formely to excite an amiable cheerfulness at our meals, when the charm was still further heightened by the sweets of friendship and urbanity.

'Gaming arrives in its turn, and two of the most clever in the company are chosen to play against each other; the general interest is divided

divided between these two champions, but without jealousy, ill-nature, or the least dissention.

'There is a kind of game, to which I have often seen them give preference. It borders a little upon chess, and contains a degree of complexity which renders it difficult to be acquired. The ground, or the sand, serves for the chess board; for this purpose they prepare a small square surface, in which they plant, with a certain degree of order, some bits of wood or straw. It is on the clever displacing or removal of these strips, that the issue of the game depends.

'The time employed in the pleasure of talking, smoking, and gaming, is so seductive and attracting, that they cannot prevail on themselves to separate till dinner-time, and many would sooner lose their meals than abandon their amusement; but the women, who are always kind, attentive, and complaisant, do not forget their fathers, husbands, or brothers, but bring them kouskou, or rice, to which they almost always add some dainty bits.

'In this manner they pass the whole day, and towards evening, I often observed these coteries in the same place, and conducted with the same gaiety and spirit, the conversation being as animated as if it had just begun.

'At length night puts an end to these palavers, and the company devote themselves to dancing, which during the dry season is performed in the open air, and in rainy weather under the bentaba. The negresses are passionately fond of this amusement, and it is a fact, that for half the night, throughout the year, all the inhabitants of Africa are engaged in dancing.'—

'A thatched hut, the building of which cost nothing, some ells of common linen, and six pounds of millet, or rice, every day, are sufficient for lodging, feeding, and clothing a family, consisting of a father, mother, and four or five children. The negroe collects himself the materials necessary for the construction of his house, and he is his own builder. The women procure the cotton, and manufacture their clothes; twenty days labour per year, are sufficient to ensure an abundant supply of food, so that the existence of a negroe family may be said to be a gratuitous gift of nature, granted without expence or fatigue: hence celibacy is scarcely known in Africa: indeed it is so rare, that it attaches a sort of shame to those who adopt it.

'It ought to be understood, that in the general situation of the negroes on their natal soil, their life passes without labour, chagrin, or even care. Being always abandoned to a gentle apathy, exempt from the troubles and agitations which afflict Europeans; and their character being sober and moderate, the life of the negroes of Africa, upon an average, extends from sixty-five to seventy years, experiencing only an insensible alteration in their health and strength; an alteration which is particularly attributable to a perpetual and too abundant *transpiration;* and when death arrives, they meet the grim tyrant without the least murmur, and with a perfect submission to their inevitable fate. They always submit, without complaint, to that fatality, which, according to them, determines the events of life and death; and they support the latter without alarm or indeed with perfect tranquillity.'

Thus

Thus persuaded of the happiness enjoyed by the negroe in his native land, M. Golberry might be expected to fulminate a Philippic against the patrons of the Slave Trade: but we find him its strenuous advocate. He regards the 80,000 negroes annually taken to the West Indies as bearing a small proportion to the total of African population; and he considers the trade as beneficial to humanity, because it has taught those who make captives in war 'to prefer the acquisition of useful articles to the executing of useless massacres.' It is to be observed, however, that his statement of the population is in a great measure gratuitous; and that his other position, which intimates that the Slave Trade tends rather to preserve than to destroy life, requires to be proved. We may fairly suppose that the temptation, which this trade offers, is a perpetual stimulus to war among the negroe tribes; and if the lives which are lost in these rencounters in the first instance, the subsequent deaths resulting from captivity, and the mortality on the passage, and in what is termed *Seasoning* in the colonies, be all taken into the account, we cannot readily admit the views of this traveller. At present, this topic can only be brought as a proof of the barbarous state of Africa, and of the mercenary spirit of Europeans: but M. Golberry hopes that the intercourse which trade promotes will be a means of effecting the civilization of Africa. If we are to judge by past experience, we see little ground for indulging in so brilliant a vision: but should this epoch ever arrive, we agree with him that the trade will no longer exist.—To explore the interior of Africa is desirable; and though the continuance of the Slave Trade affords us the means of prosecuting this purpose, we cannot think that it supplies 'the *only* effectual means.' Commercial relations might exist with Africa, which would as much tend to conciliate her towards Europeans as a traffic in the very blood and misery of her children. That the principles of slavery have been cherished in that country from the most remote antiquity, and that they seem there interwoven with the very rudiments of society, we are ready to admit; as well as what is observed by the traveller towards the conclusion of his work, that 'if we preach up the abolition of slavery, we should have against us, not only the whole of the free proprietary of Africa, who, with respect to the portion in slavery, are as two to three, but also all the cottage slaves, who are attached and devoted to their masters, contented with their fate, and are very often themselves the proprietors of a few slaves still more subordinate:' but, if such be the state of facts, if slavery be the radical vice of Africa, can our fostering it promote its cure? How is a country to be civilized, by exporting

porting her inhabitants to regions from which they can never return?

The last chapter, which is intitled *Varieties*, (meaning miscellaneous matters,) exhibits a profusion of subjects. We have accounts of the tedium occasioned by the uniform clear sky of Africa—of the vegetation—tornadoes—apes—sepulchres—*boa constrictor*, or tennuy serpent—paroquet—a species of inebriating beer made from a root called *ningik*—palm-tree wine—punishment of crimes—cultivation of tobacco and the sugar-cane —dogs—serval or tiger-cat—pelican—tattooing—singing and music of the negroes—two beautiful negresses, the favourite women of a chief (these are delightful portraits)—swimming of the negroes—ambergris—dates—crocodiles, or caymans, and sharks, &c. &c. In the midst of these shreds and patches, is inserted an affecting tribute to the virtues of M. Golberry's favourite negroe *Taliba*; who, we are told, served him, during the whole time of his remaining in Africa, with a degree of zeal, fidelity, and devotion, which is very rarely manifested by an European domestic. This man was a free negroe, the only son of a free negress; and his attachment to his master, and affection to his mother, highly attract our esteem. M. Golberry, indeed, by bearing this public testimony of his regard for this negroe servant, as well as by other traits dispersed in these volumes, gives us a favourable opinion of the amiable qualities of his own mind; which are doubly valuable when combined with knowlege, and displayed by one who writes, from experience, a portion of the history of man.

M. Golberry speaks of his map as executed with care, according to the most recent and authentic observations, though not on a large scale.

The translation, which, we are told, was performed in the short space of twenty days, bears evident marks of haste: yet we are surprized that verbal blemishes are not more numerous. If Mr. Blagdon was obliged to employ a galloping pen, some faults on this account are excusable: but, if this necessity did not exist, rapidity of labour is no apology to the public for imperfect execution.—These volumes form the 3d and 4th of Mr. B.'s collection of Voyages and Travels: the 1st and 2d, containing Denon's Travels in Egypt, were mentioned in our 40th Vol. p. 86; the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, comprizing Pallas's Travels in Russia, will be found in the *Catalogue* part of this Review.

M. Golberry's plans respecting Western Africa contemplate not only the extension of the commerce of France in that quarter of the globe, but the exclusion of all British influence; and though we must approve the patriotism of this intelligent traveller,

veller, the operation of the same principle demands us to direct the attention of our government to this subject, in order that the projects of France may be resisted, and the interests of our African commerce secured on the return of peace. A British Naval Officer, in a work intitled " African Memoranda," which we have just seen, adverts to the tendency of M. Golbetry's speculations, as they affect our own country; and we shall hope, in due time, to detail the substance of his observations.

Mo-y.

ART. VIII. *The Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, abridged,* by Charles Hutton, LL.D. F.R.S. George Shaw, M.D. F.R.S. F.L.S. and Richard Pearson, M.D. F.A.S. 4to. 10s. 6d. each Part, or 2l. 2s. per Volume. C. and R. Baldwin.

IT is not, perhaps, exceeding the line of our duty, to give a brief statement of the plan, nature, and progress of the present undertaking; which relates to a work of standard merit in the philosophic world, and which must therefore be interesting to all scientific men. Of the eighteen volumes, of which it is intended that this abridgment shall consist, three are before us: but it must be needless for us to say that we have not attempted the regular and complete perusal of them. We have occasionally selected a paper, however, and compared it with its original under its amended and sometimes curtailed form; and, as far as such comparisons have extended, we see no reason for being dissatisfied with the care and judgment of the gentlemen concerned in this laborious duty.

A principal cause of this publication, as stated in the Prospectus, is the extreme scarcity of the original collection; which consists of 92 volumes. What obstacles, then, prevented a *new Edition?* The answer is; the high price to which such an edition must amount, perhaps 90 guineas: while the price of this abridgment is only 36 guineas; many useless or uninteresting papers are omitted; and frequent biographical notices of eminent persons are interspersed.—Had booksellers and printers, however, intended to be œconomical, a new edition might have been effected at a cheaper rate, and would have been favourably received. Why is it desirable to possess the volumes of the Philosophical Transactions? Because it is curious, and often highly important, to consult the original sources of information; and to read opinions and discoveries in the very words of their authors. Will a nice and scrupulous person be satisfied that the present editors, with all their caution and judgment, have not omitted, in an emended memoir,

moir, some material circumstance? Will he be satisfied that an omitted memoir, only noticed as containing nothing particular, really merits that account? He may have full reliance on the care, the zeal, and the ability of the editors: but he cannot forget that they are only three persons, and that the opinions, discoveries, &c. to be preserved and recorded, belong to some hundreds.—If, however, the present work be not the repository of the original deeds by which English Science has been established, enriched, and embellished, it is a collection pregnant with amusement and instruction. That a person who peruses this abridgment shall obtain much profound, useful, and ornamental knowlege, there is no doubt. Yet we hesitate in affirming that a student may learn a particular science,—chemistry, for instance,—to the greatest advantage, in these volumes. We are thus led to remark that the middle course, which the Conductors have pursued, stands without its adequate justification. The interest of the work, as being *a copy* of the original memoirs, is destroyed by its frequent omissions and mutilations; while its value as a scientific Encyclopedia is less than it might have been, had the matter been refined and run over again.—These remarks may perhaps be said to originate in whimsical or ill-natured scrupulousness: but we feel no such consciousness; and, whatever comment be put on our opinions, we have not yet been taught the art of concealing them. The biographical notices, we think, are also too short: they remind us of the lives of Hector and Pompey at the end of Ainsworth's Dictionary.

The papers written in Latin, &c. in the original, are here translated: except in special cases; as when, for instance, decency requires that the vigor of old Parr should be "veil'd in the obscurity of a learned language."—The English composition is not suffered to remain in its old form: but its spelling is modernized, and the *eth* termination of verbs is made to give place to the *s*. In the account of Huygens's Horologium, we find the following sentence: 'which a nail by its circumrotation *designs* in the air;'—*designeth* in the original. Now here, as so many words are occasionally altered, a phrase equally forcible and more familiar to an English ear should have been chosen. In the same page, occurs a troublesome typographical error;—'the *other* has,' for, we suppose, the *author* has. In our copy, the plates of volume the second are bound up with volume 3d, which is without its proper engravings.—As we have already said, many original papers are wholly inserted, others retrenched, and others entirely omitted. The causes of insertion and omission may, in general terms, be assigned to be the degrees of merit in the respective papers: but a rule

for

for accepting and rejecting cannot be stated in precise terms: it must fail or bewilder in its practical application; and we are unable, in the volumes before us, to ascertain the operation of such a rule. Many papers are inserted which we deem of little interest and importance, and some are excluded which we think should have been suffered to retain their places. The account of Perrault's Translation is introduced, but Wallis's method of Tangents is discarded; and in some instances we discern something like caprice. The subject, however, is not without its difficulty; for we believe that every candid man would confess, that he must have been frequently embarrassed to determine whether a paper ought or ought not to be admitted.

In order to comprize within 18 volumes all the matter of the Transactions, the process of real abridgment and retrenchment, it appears to us, must proceed more rapidly than it hitherto has advanced.

The work is very handsomely published, with respect to paper, typography, and engravings. Some copies are printed on royal paper, price 18s. each part.

R.W.

ART. IX. *Memoirs of the Life of Dr. Darwin*, chiefly during his Residence at Lichfield, with Anecdotes of his Friends, and Criticisms on his Writings. By Anna Seward. 8vo. 7s. 6d. Boards. Johnson. 1804.

OUR review of this volume has been delayed, in expectation of the promised publication on the same subject, by Mr. Bilsborrow, which would have enabled us to give a complete view of the life and literary progress of the celebrated writer here commemorated. As that work has not appeared, we must now attend to the materials laid before us, though avowedly incomplete. The present volume might indeed have been more properly denominated, *Recollections*, than *Memoirs*; for although it was highly proper that Miss Seward should only communicate what she knew with certainty, yet many readers may have been disappointed, on finding that Dr. Darwin is introduced to them at the age of twenty-four, and dismissed at fifty, on his removal to Derby. The task of a biographer is not so strict and severe as that of an historian, but it is expected to be complete.—The only exception, which occurs to us, is that of the *Mémoires de Grammont*, the irregularities of which are compensated by the exquisite wit of the author; yet even in a work of mere pleasantry, there is a charm in order; and serious compositions are lost without it.

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It must be acknowleged, however, that the period selected by our fair author is peculiarly interesting. It exhibits the rise of Dr. Darwin's celebrity; and it introduces us to his literary circle in those moments in which the early attractions of study possess their strongest fascination. The names of his associates are calculated also to excite attention, and they afford an opportunity for supplying some curious anecdotes. Yet that part of the volume, which will most claim the reader's attention, is that which contains Miss Seward's critical observations; since the comments of a poetess on the works of a poet are not often to be obtained. We shall, in our hypercriticism, treat them with due respect, and with the freedom which they equally demand.

We extract Miss Seward's animated description of Dr. Darwin's person and manners, from the opening of her memoirs:

'Dr. Erasmus Darwin was the son of a private gentleman, near Newark, in Nottinghamshire. He came to Lichfield to practise physic in the autumn of the year 1756, at the age of twenty-four; bringing high recommendations from the university of Edinburgh, in which he had studied, and from that of Cambridge, to which he belonged.

'He was somewhat above the middle size, his form athletic, and inclined to corpulence; his limbs too heavy for exact proportion. The traces of a severe small-pox; features, and countenance, which, when they were not animated by social pleasure, were rather saturnine than sprightly; a stoop in the shoulders, and the then professional appendage, a large full-bottomed wig, gave at that early period of life, an appearance of nearly twice the years he bore. Florid health, and the earnest of good humour, a sunny smile, on entering a room, and on first accosting his friends, rendered, in his youth, that exterior agreeable, to which beauty and symmetry had not been propitious.

'He stammered extremely; but whatever he said, whether gravely or in jest, was always well worth waiting for, though the inevitable impression it made might not always be pleasant to individual self-love. Conscious of great native elevation above the general standard of intellect, he became, early in life, sore upon opposition, whether in argument or conduct, and always revenged it by sarcasm of very keen edge. Nor was he less impatient of the sallies of egotism and vanity, even when they were in so slight a degree, that strict politeness would rather tolerate than ridicule them. Dr. Darwin seldom failed to present their caricature in jocose but wounding irony. If these ingredients of colloquial despotism were discernible in *unworn* existence, they increased as it advanced, fed by an evergrowing reputation within and without the pale of medicine.

'Extreme was his scepticism to human truth. From that cause he often disregarded the accounts his patients gave of themselves, and rather chose to collect his information by indirect inquiry and by cross-examining them, than from their voluntary testimony. That distrust and that habit were probably favourable to his skill

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in discovering the origin of diseases, and thence to his pre-eminent success in effecting their cure;—but they impressed his mind and tinctured his conversation with an apparent want of confidence in mankind, which was apt to wound the ingenuous and confiding spirit, whether seeking his medical assistance, or his counsel as a friend. Perhaps this proneness to suspicion mingled too much of art in his wisdom.'

Professional men of different classes, lawyers as well as physicians, must become early sensible of the difficulty of ascertaining facts, even when there exists no intention to deceive: but Dr. D. appears from this account to have carried his distrust of common testimony to an unreasonable and embarrassing degree. Many states of disease occur, in which an examination, such as the author has described, would greatly increase the sufferings of the patient, by irritating his feelings.

We are subsequently informed that Dr. D. was a great enemy to the use of wine and spirits.—In this, as in a general rule, we should agree with him: but we cannot coincide with his recommendation of home-made wines; which is indeed inconsistent with his aversion to spirits, for brandy is an ingredient in most of these domestic productions. The hearty and mixed feeding, which he inculcated from his own taste, and enforced in so singular a manner by his example, is to many constitutions equally noxious with excess in fermented liquors. In dietetic prescriptions, physicians are apt to consider the food which they themselves prefer, as the most salutary for their patients;—excepting always the Doctor mentioned by Rabelais, who recommended to his friends only those parts of the partridges which he himself did not choose to eat.

It appears that Dr. D. long repress his poetical genius, from an apprehension that it might prove injurious to his professional reputation.—Miss Seward has expressed this fact, rather quaintly, though in her peculiar style; and she goes on to say:

'Occasional little pieces, however, stole at seldom occurring periods from his pen; though he cautiously precluded their passing the press, before his latent genius for poetry became unveiled to the public eye in it's copious and dazzling splendour. Most of these minute gems have stolen into newspapers and magazines, since the impregnable rock, on which his medicinal and philosophical reputation were placed, induced him to contend for *that* species of fame, which should entwine the Parnassian laurel with the balm of Pharmacy.'

On this singular phraseology, we cannot avoid remarking, that the word *medical* should have been substituted for *medicinal*; and that Pharmacy has nothing to do in the business, for

for Dr. D. never was an apothecary:—but more of this hereafter.

The rise of Dr. Darwin's professional character, from the successful treatment of a dangerous case, and his first marriage, in 1757, to Miss Howard, 'of the Close of Lichfield, a blooming and lovely lady of eighteen,' are next detailed. The record of this Lady's early fate is uncommonly interesting. Physicians have too often to complain, with their master,

"*Nec prosunt Domino quæ prosunt omnibus artes.*" Ovid.

We are next entertained with an account of the Doctor's house in Lichfield; (which, according to the spirit of the times, should have been accompanied with *plates in acqua tinta*;) and with anecdotes of Mr. Edgeworth, and the benevolent Mr. Day, of whose person we have an excellent description:

'Mr. Day looked the philosopher. Powder and fine clothes were, at that time, the appendages of gentlemen. Mr. Day wore not either. He was tall and stooped in the shoulders, full made, but not corpulent; and in his meditative and melancholy air a degree of awkwardness and dignity were blended. We found his features interesting and agreeable amidst the traces of a severe small pox. There was a sort of weight upon the lids of his large hazle eyes; yet when he declaimed,

——————"Of good and evil,
"Passion, and apathy, and glory, and shame,"

very expressive were the energies gleaming from them, beneath the shade of sable hair, which, Adam-like, curled about his brows. Less graceful, less amusing, less brilliant than Mr E., but more highly imaginative, more classical, and a deeper reasoner; strict integrity, energetic friendship, open-handed bounty, sedulous and diffusive charity, greatly overbalanced, on the side of virtue, the tincture of misanthropic gloom and proud contempt of common-life society, that marked the peculiar character, which shall unfold itself on these pages.'

Miss S. also presents us with some verses composed by this excentric character; which it would be unfair to criticize, because they bear evident marks of haste and carelessness. It was the misfortune of this man of real worth and good intentions, to attempt a virtue beyond nature;—a degree of perfection in his opinion, but in reality an absurdity. 'Mr. Day was a rigid moralist, who proudly imposed on himself cold abstinence, even from the most innocent pleasures; nor would he allow an action to be virtuous, which was performed upon any hope of reward here, or hereafter.' To this unfortunate affectation of impracticable virtue, Mr. Day added an enthusiasm for the extravagancies of Rousseau; which calumny has

intitled Philosophical, but which Rousseau himself did not deem worthy of that appellation.— Mr. Day joined with a friend, in educating two female foundlings, with the view of making one of them his wife: but

'His experiments had not the success he wished and expected. Her spirit could not be armed against the dread of pain, and the appearance of danger. When he dropped melted sealing wax upon her arms she did not endure it heroically, nor when he fired pistols at her petticoats, which she believed to be charged with balls, could she help starting aside, or suppress her screams.

'When he tried her fidelity in secret-keeping, by telling her of well invented dangers to himself, in which greater danger would result from it's being discovered that he was *aware* of them, he once or twice detected her having imparted them to the servants, and to her playfellows.

'She betrayed an averseness to the study of books, and of the rudiments of science, which gave little promise of ability, that should, one day, be responsible for the education of youths who were to emulate the Gracchi.'

To such reveries did this worthy being sacrifice his happiness, and eventually his life; for after having declined to espouse his fair pupil, having unsuccessfully addressed two other ladies, and having at last married a woman who subjected her own better sense to his preposterous scheme of living, he was destroyed by attempting to ride a favourite colt, which he would not permit to be broken in according to the corrupt modes of established society. It is impossible to avoid loving and pitying so remarkable a character *, a spoiled child of Nature and Fortune, who rebelled against both, and threw away every real blessing in a course of self-denial by which no one could be edified, and in unavailing endeavours to act from abstract motives. He forgot, or disregarded, the well founded remark of old Horace,

"*Vitiis nemo sine nascitur: optimus ille est*
Qui minimis urgetur."——Sat. i. 3. lin. 68

On this instructive story, an excellent and useful novel might be composed; for though few men can be enabled by their situation to emulate Mr. Day's excentricities in their full extent, sufficient scope will remain for the vexation of domestic circles, in a very humble imitation of them. Return we, at length, to Dr. Darwin, whom we now find in company with Sir Brooke Boothby. 'A votary to botanic science, a deep reasoner, and a *clear-sighted* politician, is Sir Brooke Boothby, as his convincing refutation of that splen-

* While living, indeed, we well knew and much loved him; now that he is dead, we shall ever lament his fate, and respect his memory.

did,

did, dazzling, and misleading sophistry, Burke on the French Revolution, has proved.'

In speaking of Mr. Munday, another of the Dr.'s associates, Miss S. regrets that he cannot be persuaded to print his Poem on Needwood Forest, from his dread of Criticism: but why should this lady declaim on 'the illiberality of self-elected censors?'—

"*Non obtusa adeo gestamus pectora Pæni.*"

Miss Seward should consider that she cannot injure the credit of Reviewers, without detracting from her own reputation.

The anecdote of Dr. Darwin's swimming on shore from a convivial party on the water, and haranguing the people of Nottingham on the necessity of opening their windows for ventilation, might very well have been suppressed. The list of literary characters in Litchfield, also, who were before unknown to fame, (excepting the Author's father, the Rev. Mr. Seward, editor of Beaumont and Fletcher,) somewhat reminds us of the Club immortalized by "P. P. Clerk of this Parish."—Into the reasons for that estrangement which subsisted between Dr. Darwin and the great ornament of Litchfield, it is hardly necessary to enter. Dr. D.'s scepticism in religion supplies an easy solution of the question.

Miss S. next notices 'that great work,' the Zoonomia.—On this subject, our observations have been so copious, in former volumes, that we may be excused from reverting to it; and we shall only remark, that it has not produced the change in Medical doctrines and practice which Miss S. appears to have expected. It is better calculated for speculative readers than for students, or practitioners of the healing art; and much of the pathology was discussed and dismissed by the judicious part of the faculty, as it was anticipated in the prior work of John Brown.

The succeeding event, of Dr. Darwin's romantic attachment to Mrs. Pole, of Radburn, whom he afterward married, is detailed with interest, and serves to introduce some pretty verses.

Respecting a matter of smaller apparent consequence, the formation of a garden near Lichfield, we find a curious literary anecdote. Miss Seward first visited the Dr.'s botanic garden alone; seated in which, she produced the following poem:

'O, come not here, ye Proud, whose breasts infold
Th' insatiate wish of glory, or of gold;
O come not ye, whose branded foreheads wear
Th' eternal frown of envy, or of care;
For you no Dryad decks her fragrant bowers,
For you her sparkling urn no Naiad pours;
Unmark'd by you light Graces skim the green,
And hovering Cupids aim their shafts unseen.

'But thou! whose mind the well-attemper'd ray
Of Taste and Virtue, lights with purer day;
Whose finer sense each soft vibration owns,
Mute and unfeeling to *discorded* tones;
Like the fair flower that spreads its lucid form
To meet the sun, but shuts it to the storm;
For thee my borders nurse the glowing wreath,
My fountains murmur, and my zephyrs breathe;
My painted birds their vivid plumes unfold,
And insect armies wave their wings of gold.
And if with thee some halpess maid should stray,
Disastrous love companion of her way,
O lead her timid step to yonder glade,
Whose weeping rock incumbent alders shade!
There, as meek Evening wakes the temperate breeze,
And moonbeams glimmer through the trembling trees,
The rills, that gurgle round, shall sooth her ear,
The weeping rock shall number tear for tear;
And as sad Philomel, alike forlorn,
Sings to the night, reclining on her thorn,
While, at sweet intervals, each falling *note*
Sighs in the gale, and whispers round the *grot*,
The sister woe shall calm her aching breast,
And softest slumbers steal her cares to rest.

'Thus spoke the * Genius as he stept along,
And bade these lawns to Peace and Truth belong;
Down the steep slopes he led, with modest skill,
The grassy pathway and the vagrant rill;
Stretch'd o'er the marshy vale the willowy mound,
Where shines the lake amid the cultur'd ground;
Rais'd the young woodland, smooth'd the wavy green,
And gave to Beauty all the quiet scene.

'O! may no ruder step these bowers prophane,
No midnight wassailers deface the plain;
And when the tempests of the wintry day
Blow golden Autumn's varied leaves away,
Winds of the North, restrain your icy gales,
Nor chill the bosom of these HALLOWED VALES† !

'When Miss Seward gave this little poem to Dr. Darwin, he seemed pleased with it, and said, "I shall send it to the periodical publications;

'* By the Genius of the place is meant its first cultivator, Dr. Darwin.'

'† These verses, in their original state, as inscribed here, will be found in Mr. Shaw's History of Staffordshire, published in 1798, near four years before the death of Dr. Darwin; see Article *Lichfield*, page 347. Their author chose to assert her claim to them in the Doctor's lifetime, since they had appeared in the periodical publications many years before the Botanic Garden passed the press, and had borne her signature.'

but

but it ought to form the exordium of a great work. The Linnean System is unexplored poetic ground, and an happy subject for the muse. It affords fine scope for poetic landscape; it suggests metamorphoses of the Ovidian kind, though reversed. Ovid made men and women into flowers, plants, and trees. You should make flowers, plants, and trees, into men and women. I," continued he, "will write the notes, which must be scientific; and you shall write the verse."

'Miss S. observed, that, besides her want of botanic knowledge, the plan was not strictly proper for a female pen; that she felt how eminently it was adapted to the efflorescence of his own fancy.

'He objected the professional danger of coming forward an acknowledged poet. It was pleaded, that on his first commencing medical professor, there might have been danger; but that, beneath the unbounded confidence his experienced skill in medicine had obtained from the public, all risque of injury by reputation flowing in upon him from a new source was precluded; especially since the subject of the poetry, and still more the notes would be connected with pathology.

'Dr Darwin took his friend's advice, and very soon began his great poetic work; but previously, a few weeks after they were composed, sent the verses Miss S. wrote in his Botanic Garden, to the Gentleman's Magazine, and in her name. From thence they were copied in the Annual Register; but without consulting her, he had substituted for the last six lines, eight of his own. He afterwards, and again without the knowledge of their author, made them the exordium to the first part of his poem, published, for certain reasons, some years after the second part had appeared. No acknowledgment was made that those verses were the work of another pen. Such acknowledgment ought to have been made, especially since they passed the press in the name of their real author. They are somewhat altered in the exordium to Dr. Darwin's Poem, and eighteen lines of his own are interwoven with them.'

The catterwauling correspondence which follows, between the Author and Dr. Darwin, in the characters of two cats, ought to have been consigned to oblivion.—The story of Dr. D.'s having superscribed a letter 'to Dr. Franklin in America,' and of his intention to have directed it to that celebrated man "*in the World*," might also have been spared. The noted Quack, Dr. Misaubin, is known to have claimed the latter address as his right, before either Franklin or Darwin was in existence.

With the removal of Dr. Darwin to Derby, which was stipulated at the period of his second marriage, the thread of Miss Seward's narrative properly closes; and the remaining part of the volume is chiefly occupied by her criticisms on the Dr's. Poetical Works, which we shall now proceed to consider.

After some desultory remarks on a piece, which the Author ascribes to what she is pleased to call *the Darwinian School* of

Poetry, Miss S. adopts, from Mr. Fellowes, the following distinction;

"In perspicuity, which is one of the first excellences in poetic as well as prose composition, this author has perhaps few equals. He is clear, even when describing the most intricate operations of nature, or the most complex works of art; and there is a lucid transparency in his style through which we see objects in their exact figure and proportion; but Dr. Darwin's poetry wants sensation; that sort of excellence which, while it enables us to see distinctly the objects described, makes us feel them acting on our nerves."

A considerable inaccuracy is observable in this passage, in the use of the word *sensation*. The writer means, we suppose, that Dr. Darwin's poetry is deficient in feeling; the term *sensation* is metaphysical, and can only be applied with propriety to impressions felt by a sentient being. A poem may inspire sensations, which it cannot be said to possess. Miss Seward has laboured to prove, however, that there is a kind of vivid poetry which does *not* excite sensation, and a kind of vivid poetry which *does* excite it. She finds an instance of the former in the Botanic Garden, as the critical reader will easily conceive; and of the latter (*quale portentum!*) in a Sonnet by Mr. C. Lloyd! Miss Seward's Prose was not deficient in producing *sensation* with us in this case, but it was far from being of the approving kind. To us, Mr. Lloyd's poetry had always conveyed the *sensation* expressed by the Deserter, in the "What-d'ye call it;"

"Oh! 'tis so moving, I can read no more!"——

In the fair author's comparison between Shakspeare's description of the glow-worm, and that of Darwin, she has assigned very ingenious reasons for the superior interest excited by the former: but she might have added a more obvious cause. When Darwin calls the glow worm,

"Star of the earth, and diamond of the night,"

every judge of poetry feels the line to be a mere conceit; while in Shakspeare the image is *natural*, and therefore touching.

Another passage quoted by Miss Seward,

"And now the rising moon, with lustre pale,
O'er heav'ns dark arch unfurls her milky veil,"

reminds us, rather oddly, of Pope's celebrated but very unfaithful translation from the Iliad;

"As when the moon, refulgent lamp of night,
O'er heav'n's pure azure spreads her sacred light."

It bears a still-closer resemblance to two lines in Comus:

"Am

" Am I deceiv'd, or does a sable cloud
Turn forth her silver lining on the night?"

We shall now give Miss Seward's general view of Dr. D.'s poetical merits:

'Dr. Darwin's excellence consists in delighting the eye, the taste, and the fancy, by the strength, distinctness, elegance, and perfect originality of his pictures; and in delighting the ear by the rich cadence of his numbers; but the passions are generally asleep, and seldom are the nerves thrilled by his imagery, impressive and beauteous as it is, or by his landscapes, with all their vividness.

'It may, however, be justly pleaded for his great work, that it's ingenious and novel plan did not involve any claim upon the affections. We are presented with an highly imaginative and splendidly descriptive poem, whose successive pictures alternately possess the sublimity of Michael Angelo, the correctness and elegance of Raphael, with the glow of Titian; whose landscapes have, at times, the strength of Salvator, and at others the softeness of Claude; whose numbers are of stately grace, and artful harmony; while its allusions to ancient and modern history and fable, and its interspersion of recent and extraordinary anecdotes, render it extremely entertaining. Adapting the past and recent discoveries in natural and scientific philosophy to the purposes of heroic verse, the Botanic Garden forms a new class in poetry, and by so doing, gives to the British Parnassus a wider extent than it possessed in Greece, or in ancient, or modern Rome.

'Nor is it only that this composition takes unbeaten ground, and forms an additional order in the fanes of the Muses, it forms that new order so brilliantly, that though it may have many imitators, it will probably never have an equal in it's particular class; neither would it's style apply happily to subjects less intrinsically picturesque. The species of praise here given to this work is all that its author desired to excite. We have no right to complain of any writer, or to censure him for not possessing those powers at which he did not aim, and which are not necessarily connected with his plan.'

Instead of subscribing implicitly to this spirited panegyric, we are compelled, by a regard to justice, to observe that, if there be merit in the peculiar manner of Dr. Darwin's versification, it has been anticipated in a production, little known, intitled " *Universal Beauty*, a philosophical Poem," by Henry Brooke, Esq. author of several other poems and plays, of which some account and some slight specimens will be found in the 59th Vol. of the M. R. (Oct. 1778.) p. 241.—The resemblance between this composition and the *Botanic Garden*, however, had not occurred to our minds, till it was lately intimated to the world by some fellow labourers in the vineyard of criticism. An anonymous copy of this neglected Poem, which was printed in 1735, has been cited on the occasion; and a re-printed copy, in 1778, is now before us, from which we shall make ex-

tracts sufficient to decide the opinion of our readers respecting this alleged similarity.

It would lead us far beyond our bounds to trace the plan of this poem, which embraces a much wider range than the Botanic Garden: but the following passages will speak for themselves;

" Thus answering lively to organic sense,
The plants, half animate, their pow'rs dispense;
The mouth's analogy their root displays,
And for th' intestine viscera purveys;
Their liquors thro' respondent vessels flow,
And organ like their fibrous membranes grow;
Nor yet inadequate their congruous use
Of mucilages, lymph, and lacteal juice;
The floods consimilary ducts receive,
And glands refine the separated wave;
Redounding vapours thro' the pores transpire,
And for the fresh ingredient guests retire.
Revers'd, their trachææ operate from beneath,
And through the trunk äerial conduits breathe;
Their ligneous fibres, with continuous length,
Equivalent, compact a bony strength;
But form'd elastic, with inclining shade,
Their yielding stems each stormy gust evade *:
— — — — — — — — — —
— — — — — — — — — —
" Thus mantling snug beneath a verdant trail,
The creepers draw their horizontal tail;
Wide o'er the bank the plantal reptile bends,
Adown its stem the rooty fringe depends,
The feeble boughs with anchoring safety binds,
Nor leaves precarious to insulting winds *.
— — — — — — — — — —
" Nor blush, thou rose, tho' bashful thy array,
Transplanted chaste within the raptur'd lay;
Tho' every bush, and warbled spray we sing,
And with the linnet gratulate the spring;
Sweep o'er the lawn, or revel on the plain,
Or gaze the florid, or the fragrant scene;
The flowers' forensic beauties now admire,
Th' impalement, foliation, down, attire,
Couch'd in the pannicle, or mantling veil,
That intercepts the keen, or drenching gale;
Its infant-bud here swath'd with fostering care,
Or fledg'd, and opening to the ambient air *."
— — — — — — — — — —

We beg that we may not be understood to admire the inaccuracies which appear in Mr. Brooke's verses. His incorrect

* Universal Beauty, Book III,

rhime

rhimes, which, perhaps, were occasioned by an Irish education; his boldness in using new words, which are sometimes little better than barbarisms; and his admission of inelegant terms of expression; certainly cannot be vindicated. In most of these respects, Dr. Darwin is much superior: but we must regard Mr. Brooke, if not as his model, at least as his original. We now proceed with our proofs.—The following description of the Lady-Cow, and the accompanying simile, are nearly in the best style of that school, which, if it must have a termination in *an*, must now, instead of Darwinian, be styled *Brookian.*

" Or who a twofold apparatus share,
Natives of earth, and habitants of air;
Like warriors stride, oppress'd with shining mail,
But furl'd, beneath their silken pennons veil;
Deceiv'd our fellow reptile we admire,
His bright endorsement, and compact attire,
When lo! the latent springs of motion play,
And rising lids disclose the rich inlay;
The tissued wing its folded membrane frees,
And with blithe quavers fans the gath'ring breeze;
Elate towards heaven the beauteous wonder flies,
And leaves the mortal wrapp'd in deep surprize.

" So when the guide led Tobit's youthful heir,
Elect, to win the seven-times widow'd fair,
Th' angelic form, conceal'd in human guise,
Deceiv'd the search of his associate's eyes,
Till swift each charm bursts forth like issuing flame,
And circling rays confess his heavenly frame;
The zodiac round his waist divinely burns,
And waving radiance o'er his plumage burns:
In awful transports wrapt, the youth admires,
While light from earth the dazzling shape aspires *."

That change from the chrysalis to the butterfly, which so strongly influenced Dr. Darwin that he misapplied it to the sublime tenet of the Resurrection of mankind, is depicted in these glowing colours by Mr. Brooke:

" The fulness now of circling time arrives;
Each from the long, the mortal sleep revives;
The tombs pour forth their renovated dead,
And, like a dream, all former scenes are fled.
But O! what terms expressive may relate
The change, the splendor of their new-form'd state?
Their texture, nor compos'd of filmy skin,
Of cumbrous flesh without, or bone within,
— — — — — — — — — —

* Universal Beauty, Book V.

In

In every eye ten thousand brilliants blaze,
And living pearls the vast horizon gaze;
Gemm'd o'er their heads the mines of India gleam,
And heaven's own wardrobe has array'd their frame;
Each spangled back bright sprinkling specks adorn,
Each plume imbibes the rosy tinctured morn;
Spread on each wing the florid seasons glow,
Shaded and verg'd with the celestial bow,
Where colours blend an ever-varying dye,
And wanton in their gay exchanges vie."

Again,

"See where Behemoth's pillar'd fabric stands?
His shade extensive cools the distant lands *;
Encamp'd, an army on his shoulder lies,
And o'er his back proud citadels arise †."

Lastly, though not in place, we shall extract the address to Venus Urania, the figurative deity of the poem, by whom the author understands the beauty of the creation; after which we shall leave the reader to consult his Botanic Garden, and Temple of Nature, if any doubt remain on his mind relative to Dr. Darwin's acquaintance with Mr. Brooke's performance:

"Or rather thou, whom ancient prophet stiles
Venus Urania! born the babe of smiles,
When from the deep thy bright emergence sprung,
And nature on thy form divinely hung;
Whose steps, by Loves and Graces kiss'd, advance,
And laughing Hours lead on the sprightly dance;
While Time, within eternal hinges bound,
Harmonious moves on golden hinges round — — — —.
Such, Goddess! thro' this virgin foliage shine;
Let kindling beauties glow thro' every line,
And every eye confess the work divine ‡."

Our own opinion of Dr. Darwin, as a poet and a philosopher, stands recorded already in our volumes; and if we are now compelled to deny him originality in his style of versification, we do not however detract from the patient care with which he polished his lines, and worked his colours, till they became perhaps but too brilliant.

The closing event of Dr. Darwin's life has been so often re-

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* "And his vast shadow darkens all the land."
Darwin's Œconomy of Vegetation.
He has repeated this thought.

† Univ. Beauty, Book V. ‡ Universal Beauty, Book I.

peated,

peated, and is given here with so little variation from the public papers of the time, that we shall omit it *.

After this long review of Miss Seward's book, it remains that we should pay a little attention to her style, which has struck us as very uncommon: we wish that we could add, excellent. It has frequently occurred to us, as a matter of duty, to notice the elegance of Miss Seward's poetical composition; it now becomes a painful task to point out the great defects of her prose. The affectation of saying common things in an unusual manner is the bane of good writing. If Johnson has not escaped censure on this account, what shall we say of such passages as the following, which have so much of the wrong, and nothing of the merit of his manner?

'This apprehended injudiciousness of the fire-work simile suggests the remark that a few such erratic luxuriances of a picturesque fancy, together with the peculiar construction of the Darwinian verse, and it's lavish personification, enabled an highly ingenious satirist to burlesque the Loves of the Plants, by the Loves of the Triangles. Eminently fortunate for its purpose was the thought of transforming cubes, and cones, and cylinders, and other technical terms of mathematic and mechanic science, into nymphs and swains, enamoured of each other. The verse of this ironical poem is not only Darwinian, but it is beautifully Darwinian.'

We have scarcely met with a more unhappy passage than the ensuing; in which Miss S. mentions the occasion of her beginning these memoirs, at the request of Dr. R. Darwin, of Shrewsbury:

'In *purposed* obedience, these *records* were begun, but they became too *extended* to form only materials for another person's composition;

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* Before we finally close this part of the book, it may be right to insert a note which we have received respecting a passage to which Miss Seward is desirous of giving extensive contradiction;

"The Author of the Memoirs of Dr. Darwin, since they were published, has discovered, on the attestation of his family, and of the other persons present at the juncture, that the statement given of his exclamation, page 406, on the death of Mr. Erasmus Darwin, is entirely without foundation; and that the Doctor, on that melancholy event, gave, amongst his own family, proofs of strong sensibility at the time, and of succeeding regard to the memory of his son, which he seemed to have a pride in concealing from the world. In justice to his memory, she is desirous to correct the misinformation she had received, and will therefore be obliged to the Editor of the Monthly Review to notice the circumstance in the criticism of the book, since, unless a second edition should be called for, she has no means so effectual of counteracting the mistake."

and

and too impartial to pass with propriety through the *filial channel*, though *fervently* just to the excellencies of the *commemorated*.'

Not only idiom but grammar is shocked by some of these expressions, as in many other places we have had occasion to remark; for example, 'his late years friend *.'—In others, are curious instances of the mock-heroic: 'Mr. Vyse was not only a man of learning, but of *Prioric talents in the Metrical Impromptu*.'

> "And thou, Dalhousie, the great God of War;
> *Lieutenant-Colonel to the Earl of Mar!*"

In stepping aside from her immediate purpose to criticize Cowper's translation of the Iliad, the original of which it appears that Miss S. does not understand, she uses these aukward expressions; 'that *cramp literality* which *hobbles* through his version.' Surely the lady did not mean in this passage to be 'the GREAT SUBLIME she draws.'

At p. 181. speaking of the use of the spondee in poetical composition, Miss S. adds an explanation of this metrical term, which in a note she says is intended '*for the ladies*.' Surely this passage must have been the addition of some *male* friend.

We shall proceed no farther in this unpleasant inquiry. Whatever Miss Seward may have added to the fame of her deceased friend, we are clearly of opinion that our language has gained no accession of either elegance or perspicuity from the volume before us.

Fer.

ART. X. *Song of Songs:* or sacred Idyls Translated from the original Hebrew, with Notes critical and explanatory. By John Mason Good. 8vo. pp. 250. 7s 6d. Boards. Kearsley.

WERE we insensible to the merits of this truly elegant and classical production, we should lie open to an impeachment of our taste: but, while we present our warmest thanks to Mr. Good for the high gratification which he has afforded us, by his translation of that portion of the amatory effusions of the wise Hebrew king which has descended to our times†, we must confess that we perceive not sufficient reason for the new principle of arrangement which he has adopted; and that we remain altogether unconvinced by those ingenious arguments, which he has employed to prove that the Song of Songs contains a sublime mystical allegory. This second opinion appears, in

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* Preface, p. xiii.

† In 1 Kings iv. 32. Solomon is said to have composed *one thousand and five songs*.

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our judgment, to be incompatible with the first. If the Canticles be regarded as a connected or individual poem, it is possible that some latent meaning might have been intended to have been conveyed: but if that which we have hitherto considered as a single poem be only a collection of distinct Idyls, or a variety of small poems composed at different times, and on various occasions, it cannot be easily credited that the whole has a systematically mysterious import.

Mr. Good's idea, if it be not perfectly correct, is however supported with so much ingenuity, has called into exercise so much learning, and has excited so elegant a version of the Hebrew bard, that even while we argue against its admission, we feel a partiality for an error to which perhaps we owe these fruits of the exertions of his Muse. We shall copy his objections to the common notion that the Song of Songs is an individual poem, and the account of the new principle which he has adopted:

'The Song of Songs cannot be one connected epithalamium, since the transitions are too abrupt for the wildest flights of the oriental Muse, and evidently imply a variety of openings and conclusions; while, as a regular drama, it is deficient in almost every requisite that could give it such a classification: it has neither dramatic fable nor action, neither involution nor catastrophe; it is without a beginning, a middle, or an end. To call it such, is to injure it essentially; it is to raise expectations which can never be gratified, and to force parts upon parts which have no possible connexion. Bishop Lowth himself, indeed, while he contends that it is a drama, is compelled to contemplate it as an imperfect poem of this description*.

'It is the object of the present version, therefore, to offer a new arrangement, and to regard the entire song as a collection of distinct idyls upon one common subject—and that the loves of the Hebrew monarch and his fair bride: and it has afforded me peculiar pleasure to observe, from a passage I have accidentally met with in the writings of Sir William Jones, long since the composition of the present work, that some such opinion was entertained by this illustrious scholar†. In forming this arrangement, I have followed no other guide than what has appeared to me the obvious intention of the sacred bard himself: I have confined myself to soliloquy where the speaker gives no evident proofs of a companion, and I have introduced dialogue where the responses are obvious. I have finished the idyl where the subject seems naturally to close, and I have recommenced it where a new subject is introduced. Thus divided into a multitude of little detached poems,

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'* *Id itaque satis tuto jam statuere licet, Canticum Salomonis ad minorem illam speciem dramaticæ poëseos pertinere, seu formam solummodo dramaticam habere; neutiquam justi dramatis titulo insigniri posse.*'

De Sacr. Poes.

'† *Salomonis sanctissimum carmen inter idyllia Hebræa recensendum puto.*'

Sir Wm. Jones.

I trust

I trust that many of the obscurities which have hitherto overshadowed this unrivalled relique of the eastern pastoral have vanished completely, and that the ancient Hebrews will be found to possess a poet who, independently of the sublimity of any concealed and allegorical meaning, may rival the best productions of Theocritus, Bion, or Virgil, as to the literal beauties with which every verse overflows.'

Whether the Song of Songs be considered as one nuptial poem, or as a fasciculus of love-songs or idyls, the Hebrew bard needs not shrink from a comparison with the best amatory poets of Greece and Rome: but the *nature*, not the *excellence*, of the composition is now the subject of debate. Mr. Good adduces the present practice of the Orientals in support of his hypothesis; informing us that they 'are accustomed to publish their lighter, and particularly their amatory effusions, in distinct sets or diwans,' each diwan consisting of an indefinite number of odes or gazels;—and because Hafiz, the Persian Anacreon, finishes one of his gazels with the remark that he has now "strung his pearls," Mr. G. supposes this comparison of collections of poems to strings of pearls to be of Hebrew origin, and says that the title of Solomon's composition, in its original acceptation, means 'a string of strings, or the most valuable string of poetical pearls.' He observes that שִׁיר, which we translate *song*, signifies a *string* or *chain*, being precisely synonimous with the Greek σειρα: but we demur to this explanation: שִׁיר comes from שָׁר, to *regulate* or *modulate*; hence we have שָׁרִים, singing men, or those whose voice is modulated according to a prescribed rule. The first sense of שָׁר is *to regulate*;—in its subsequent application as a noun to signify the *navel string*, or to denote a *chain* or a *string* for pearls or precious stones to form a necklace, the original idea was still retained, the navel-string being supposed to have a regulating power;—and the string or chain was so termed from the regularity of its structure, and from the arrangement which it produced. Besides, if Solomon had intended by the first word of the title of this amatory work, a *string*, in chap. i. 10. we should have found בשׁירים for בתורים, or for בחרוזים, translated "*rows* of jewels," and "*strings* of pearls." The last of these words comes from a root which literally signifies *filo indere*.

We must object to the reason assigned for disbelieving the Song of Songs to be an individual composition, viz. that 'the transitions are too abrupt for the wildest flights of the Oriental Muse.' Bold transitions are so much the character of Eastern poetry, that this circumstance alone cannot decide against the individuality of the poem. It has been observed by Harmer and others, that it is difficult to assign the several parts of the dia-

logue to the different speakers, because no descriptions of the persons going to speak are interwoven in the poem, as in Homer, or even in the Book of Job; nor any letter or mark by which the parts belonging to the interlocutors can be discriminated. Various personages are however introduced; its character is unquestionably amatory; and it probably consists of several parts: but neither its abrupt transitions nor its irregularity, nor its failure of answering to Aristotle's definition of the Epic, can form sufficient ground for concluding that it is a fasciculus of Idyls. Had this been the case, the Jews, who must have known the nature of this composition, would have thus arranged it. Moreover, with all its wildness and sudden transitions, the interlocutors remain the same from first to last; aud the King and Royal Bride, who begin the poem, are the speakers at the end of it.

Respecting the quality of the fair bride, in whose honour this poem or series of Idyls was composed, we entirely agree with Mr. Good. The arguments employed by Harmer, to evince the probability that this Song was occasioned by Solomon's marriage with Pharaoh's daughter, are certainly inconclusive; his conjectures, therefore, that "probably Solomon might be directed by some intimation of the prophetic spirit, to enter into this alliance," contrary to the injunction of the Levitical Law, and that his making a *Gentile* princess equal in honour and privileges with his former Jewish Queen indicates "the conduct of the Messiah towards the Gentile and Jewish Churches," need not now detain us. If the Egyptian marriage did not occasion this Song, Mr. Harmer's mode of accounting for the alliance, and the doctrine which he would deduce from it, have no reference to the subject in question. On the first view of the matter, it is not easy to believe that so impassioned a composition as the Song of Songs should have resulted from a state alliance. The marriages of kings with princesses are rarely affairs of the heart. Policy, not Love, is the cement on these occasions; Cupid keeps all his arrows idle in his quiver; and the Bridegroom is not inspired to any rapturous effusions. Without having recourse to this general reasoning, we might have appealed to the testimony of the poem itself, which mentions the birth-place and rank of the accomplished beauty, whose charms inspired the Royal poet:

'Instead (as Mr. Good remarks) of being of Egyptian origin, she herself informs us that she was a native of Sharon, which was a canton of Palestine. Though not of royal blood, she was of noble birth; for she is addressed by her attendants under the appellation of princess: and though she could not augment by her dowry the dimensions of the national territory, she possessed for her marriage-portion a noble

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and fruitful estate in Baal-hammon, ingeniously supposed by Mr. Harmer to have been situated in the delightful valley of Bocat, in the immediate vicinity of Balbec, leased out to a variety of tenants, whose number we are not acquainted with, but every one of whom paid her a clear rental of a thousand shekels of silver, amounting to about 120*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* sterling. From the possession of this property it is natural to conceive that her father was deceased; more especially as the house in which she resided is repeatedly called the house of her mother, as it was her mother who betrothed her to the enamoured monarch, and as no notice of any kind is taken of the existence of her father.'

It is supposed by Mr. Good that Solomon was in his 24th or 25th year when he was enamoured of this "Rose of Sharon," and, under the impression of a young and ardent passion, composed this poem, or series of distinct and unconnected Idyls; yet, though he allows the inspiring cause of the Song of Songs to be the love of a young man for a beautiful young woman, he inclines to the common belief that it contains a spiritual allusion, in opposition to that of his learned friend Dr. Geddes, who judiciously protested against the idea that it involved any esoteric or allegoric meaning. Finding the allegoric mode of writing to be very prevalent among the Oriental poets, Mr. Good is induced to regard Solomon's song of love as '*sacred* amorets' veiling sublime mysteries; and even independently of such an allusion, as intitled to the honour of constituting a part of the sacred Scriptures, since they afford a happy example of the pleasures of holy and virtuous love.

'I unite (says he) in the opinion of the illustrious Lowth, and believe such a sublime and mystic allegory to have been fully intended by the sacred bard. Regarded in this view, they afford an admirable picture of the Jewish and Christian churches; of Jehovah's selection of Israel as a peculiar people from the less fair and virtuous nations around them; of his fervent and permanent love for his elder church, so frequently compared by the Hebrew prophets to that of a bridegroom for his bride; of the beauty, fidelity, and submission of the church in return; and of the call of the Gentiles into the pale of his favour, upon the introduction of CHRISTIANITY, so exquisitely typified under the character of a younger sister, destitute, in consequence of the greater simplicity of its worship, of those external and captivating attractions which made so prominent a part of the Jewish religion.'

We cannot sufficiently express our surprize at such a sentiment from so very acute a critic. On what shadow of ground is the principle of allegoric interpretation erected, in general; and this application of it to the Jewish and Christian Churches, in particular? Because the Eastern writers indulged in apologues and fables, are we to regard all Oriental compositions as containing veiled meanings? Cannot a Hebrew poet be in love,

and invoke the muse to paint the charms of his mistress, but we must imagine that "more is meant than meets the eye?" Because Watts and other Christian composers of spiritual songs have very indiscreetly employed the language of carnal passion in describing their love to Christ, are we to infer that Solomon, in the full vigour of youth, when his heart was overflowing with the most impassioned effusions of sensual love, meditated on sublime mysteries, and even wrote under the guidance of the prophetic spirit, which he must have done according to Mr. Good's interpretation? On a recent occasion, we delivered our opinion on this subject *; an opinion which this reconsideration of it has not induced us to alter. No intimation is given that this book is allegoric; and there seems no more reason for interpreting it as containing a picture of the Jewish and Christian churches, than Warburton had for interpreting the 6th Æneid as descriptive of an initiation into the Eleusinian Mysteries †.

As the author has only given his opinion in the preface, without attempting to attach a spiritual commentary to his version, we shall no longer detain the reader by this discussion from the pleasure which he must receive from Mr. Good's execution of the task which he has undertaken. Instead of considering with Mr. Williams and others the Song of Songs as consisting of seven parts, he divides it into 12 distinct Idyls: the first beginning at chap. i. 2., the second i. 9., the third ii. 8., the fourth iii. 1., the fifth iii. 6., the sixth iv. 8., the seventh v. 2., the eighth vi. 11., the ninth vii. 1., the tenth vii. 10., the eleventh viii. 5., the twelfth viii. 8.

To the new literal version, Mr. Good has added on the opposite page a beautiful poetic paraphrase. The corrections of the common translation are made, for the most part, with great judgment; and the critical and explanatory notes display a scope of erudition, of which very few even among the learned can boast. Of the alterations, we shall notice a few.

In chap. i. 5. for *curtains*, Mr. Good has substituted 'tapestries:' i. 14. for *cluster of camphire*, 'a cluster of cypress flowers:' ii. 3. for *the apple tree*, 'citron tree:' iii. 7. for *bed*, 'palanquin.'

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* Account of Mr. Williams's translation, Rev. for March last, p. 302.

† When Mr. Good, in his notes, transcribes such a variety of passages from the Greek amatory poets, expressing similar sentiments with those of the Song of Songs, did it never occur to him that these were also *allegoric?*

Considering the connection in which the word מטתו here rendered *bed* stands, a person acquainted with the customs of the East would very naturally refer it to the palanquin; though by the LXX it is rendered φορειον, the common meaning of מטה: but if, in this place, the sense indicates the nature of the bed or couch to be the *sella gestatoria*, surely the word at verse 9, אפריון, which exactly answers to the palanquin, and is translated by the LXX φορειον, should have been rendered by the same term in English; since, though two words are employed by the Hebrew poet, both refer to the same object.

In chap. iv. 1. and vi. 4. שגלשן is correctly rendered by Mr. Good 'as a flock of goats that *brouse* about Mount Gilead.' In the following verse, for *barren* we read 'bereaved;' better answering to the Hebrew word וְשַׁכְלָה, *orbatæ*. iv. 3. and vi. 7. '*blossom* of the pomgranate' is substituted for "*piece* of pomgranate:" but we are not convinced of the propriety of the alteration. At iv. 9. instead of the old version, "Thou hast ravished my heart—with one chain of thy neck," we here read 'Thou hast ravished my heart—At once with *the turn* of thy neck;' the critic in the note acknowleging his obligation for this ingenious version to Dr. Percy, Bishop of Dromore; and observing that the Hebrew ענק is equivalent to the Arabic نوبت; which is often used in the sense here adopted. Chap. v. 11. 'curling' is properly given as the translation of תלתלים in preference to *bushy*, the term in the Bible version. At vii. 1. the word 'sandals' occupies the place of *shoes*, and at viii. 5. 'I excited thee' *i. e.* to love, is given instead of "*I raised thee up.*" The conclusion of the verse vi. 10 is changed with a happy continuation of the metaphor, from "terrible as an army with banners," to *dazzling* as 'all' the '*starry*' *host*. The obscurity vi. 12. is removed by the adoption of the reading of the LXX, Εκει δωσω τους μαστους μου σοι, and rendered by Mr. Good, 'There would I have granted thee my love;' and at viii. 6. for "the coals thereof (jealousy) are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame," we here read, 'its flames are *arrows* of fire, which Jehovah kindleth in the heavens,' dividing שלהבתיה into two words שלהבת יה, "flame of God."

By such specimens, however, we can afford no idea of the merit of the whole. We shall therefore insert an entire Idyl; first giving the literal translation, next Mr. Good's poetic version, and subjoining at the bottom of the page some of the notes.

'IDYL

'IDYL IX.

'ROYAL BRIDE, ATTENDANT VIRGINS, KING SOLOMAN (afterwards).

'VIRGINS.

'Ch. VII. 1 How beautiful are thy feet
Within thy *sandals*, O prince's daughter!
The moldings of thy limbs are as 'polished' jewels,
The work of a skilful artist.
2 Thy waist is a well turned goblet,
Replete with the 'luscious' fluid;
3 Thy bosom 'twin'-heaps of wheat,
Covered over with lilies;
Thy two nipples two young roes that are twins;
4 Thy neck is as a tower of ivory;
Thine eyes as the 'clear' fish-streams in Heshbon,
By the gate of Bath-rabbim;
Thy nose as the tower of Lebanon,
Which looketh towards Damascus:
5 Thy rising head is as Carmel,
'Covered' with its tresses in purple 'ribbands.'
The king is held captive in their flowing ringlets.

'KING SOLOMAN (*entering*).

6 How beautiful art thou! how sweet!
How 'framed,' O my love, for delights!
7 Lo! thy stature is like a palm-tree,
And thy bosom clusters 'of dates.'
8 I said 'in my heart,' I will go up to the palm-tree,
I will clasp its branches.
Yea, thy bosom shall now be unto me
As the clusters of the vine,
And the odor of thy breath as fragrant fruits;
9 Thy *speech* also like wine the most delicious,
Captivating to the palate,
Flowing sweetly through the lips and teeth.'

'IDYL IX.

'ROYAL BRIDE, ATTENDANT VIRGINS, KING SOLOMAN (afterwards).

'VIRGINS.

'How fair, O princess! are thy sandalled feet[1]!
White as the lily, as the lily sweet.

Thy

'([1]) *How fair, O princess, are thy sandalled feet!*] Magnificent sandals constituted, in the East, a part of the dress of both males and females who could afford such a luxury. I have already noticed it with respect to the former, in Idyl VII. ([18]) but the oriental ladies were peculiarly attentive to this fashionable ornament. The sandals of Judith were so brilliant that, notwithstanding the general splendor of her bracelets, rings, and necklace, these principally succeeded in cap-

Thy polished limbs, of what accordant mold!
Lucid as jewels set in purest gold.
The graceful goblet[2] vies not with thy waist,[3]
Turned more harmonious, and with finer taste;

And

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tivating the ferocious Holofernes; for we are expressly told that "her sandals ravished his eyes." Compare Judith x. 4. with xvi. 9. So Lucretius Rer. Nat. iv. 1119.

—— pulchra in pedibus Sicyonia rident.
—————— *sandals* rich
Laugh from her feet by Sicyon artists wrought.

'It is obvious, from the character under which the royal bride is here addressed, that of *princess* or *prince's daughter*, that she was of noble descent. Many commentators have, indeed, endeavoured to deduce, from this appellation, that she was the daughter of Pharaoh king of Egypt; but I have already noticed a variety of circumstances in the Preface, and shall have occasion to revert to them in several of the ensuing idyls, which evidently contradict such an idea: and, in fact, the very term here translated *prince* (נָדִיב) implies rather mere *nobility* than absolute *royalty* of birth; a "chief," a "ruler," a "noble"; and can only thus be interpreted Psalm xlvii. 9; as it is thus actually translated Isaiah xiii. 2.

'It is also obvious that the scene of the present idyl is a private bagnio or bath; probably constructed in some secluded part of the royal pleasure grounds, and unquestionably equalling the magnificence of any which are still traced in modern Asia. To this sequestered building the accomplished fair one retired with her attendants; and it is here she once more receives the royal bridegroom, after having indulged in the luxury of bathing, and re-adorned herself anterior to his admission. The exquisite beauty and proportion of her features excite the eulogy of her attendants as they undress her.'

'(2) *The graceful goblet* ——————] The vessel here referred to in the way of comparison was probably of pottery or porcelain, in the manufactory of which the artists of many ancient nations acquired a perfection and elegance of design that is altogether unrivalled in the present day. Those of Mr. Wedgewood's which are introduced into the British Museum are, unquestionably, of exquisite workmanship, and do credit to the nation in which they have been formed; but the model and finish of the Roman antiques by which they are placed are so superior as to excite the preference of the most careless spectator. On the perfection of the ancients in the arts of pottery, painting, and many sister elegancies, the reader may advantageously consult two successive and elaborate treatises on this subject by M. Ameilhon, inserted in Memoirs of the French National Institute, Literat. et Beaux Arts, tom. i. & iii. and entitled Recherches sur les Couleurs des Anciens & sur les Arts qui y ont rapport. The comparison of a graceful and delicate waist to a vessel thus elegantly moulded is curiously pertinent and happy.'

'(3) —— *vies not with thy waist.*] The Hebrew word שָׁרָר here translated *waist*, in its more confined and literal signification implies

navel;

And filled with fertile juices, to the heart
Dearer than aught the goblet can impart
Thy swelling bosom teems with nurture sweet,[5]
As, in the fields, twin beds of milky wheat—

Beds

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navel; and the Bible version therefore reads thus: 'Thy *navel* is "like" a round goblet, "which" wanteth not liquor.' But what are we to understand by such a reading? The entire passage has to this hour puzzled the whole host of critics: though I think nothing can be more obvious than its meaning in the original. I allow that the term שרר implies literally the *navel*; but I contend that it is often figuratively used, as in the present version, for the *waist* at large, or the whole of the surrounding region—and this with great pertinence and beauty; the one constituting the fountain of life in the fœtus, the other in the adult, and the former being at all times the most prominent organ of the latter. It is in this sense employed Job xl. 16. in which place it is introduced in direct opposition with the word *loins*, our own figurative term for the same idea. Here, speaking of the behemoth, the Almighty exclaims ואונו בשרירי בטנו

'Behold his strength is in his loins—i. e. his back,
And his virility in the *navel* of his belly, i. e. in his *waist*.

'In a similar acceptation the word שרר or *navel* is employed in Prov. iii. 7. and for want of attention to this remark the passage has never been fully understood to the present moment.

'It shall be health (*fertility*) to thy *waist*,
And marrow to thy bones.

'In commenting upon the opening of the present idyl, Patrick, Harmer, and Parkhurst have conceived that the royal poet, instead of delineating the personal charms, 'the *unbought* graces' of his accomplished fair, is merely describing her different habiliments with the splendid figures which were wrought on them. Against such an interpretation I cannot but strongly protest, as equally unpoetical, and unjust to the text. In the literal sense of the original, I see no indelicacy whatever, and there ought to be no indelicacy in its translation. The royal bard is merely assuming a liberty, and that in the chastest manner possible, which we are daily conceding in our own age to every painter and sculptor of eminence.'

'(5) *Thy swelling bosom teems with nurture sweet.*] Here again I am compelled to deviate from the common version and the interpretation of every prior commentator, as offering a sense which I confess I either do not understand, or see obvious reason for rejecting. The Hebrew term בטן, here translated *bosom*, might more strictly and literally perhaps be rendered *belly*, and is thus interpreted in our English bibles—'thy *belly* "is like" a heap of wheat.' But even the English term *belly* is divided by anatomists into *upper* and *lower*—the former being appropriated to the chest or præcordia, and the latter to the abdominal region. Now the Hebrew term בטן not only admits of this latitude of interpretation—but is occasionally employed, and particularly

Beds covered o'er with lilies silvery white,
Alike the smell enchanting, and the sight;
While, through each hill of palpitating snow,
Peeps, clad in dun, a young and timid roe.
Thy graceful neck, pre-eminent in power,
Rises majestic as an ivory tower.
Bright are thine eyes, with ampler blaze that beam
Than by Bath-rabbim, Heshbon's limpid stream;
Thy nose outvies, so exquisitely turned,
Th' unrivalled tower o'er Lebanon discerned:
Thy head is Carmel, and its tresses round,
In purple decked, the groves o'er Carmel found:
Loose to the breeze, in shadowy pomp they wave,
Arrest the monarch, and his heart enslave."

'KING

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cularly in the writings of Soloman, in passages in which to translate it otherwise than by the term *bosom* or *heart* would be to subvert the very meaning of the writer himself. What are we to understand by the common rendering of *belly* in Job xv. 35. in which the same word occurs in the original?

'They conceive mischief and bring forth vanity:
And their *belly* prepareth deceit.

'So Prov. xviii. 8.

'The words of the tale-bearer are wounds,
And penetrate the inmost recesses of the *belly*.

'Again, in the same book, chap. xx. 27.

'The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord,
Searching all the inmost recesses of the *belly*.

'Who does not perceive that, in all these instances, the sacred writers intend the *heart*, or rather the *bosom*, and not the *belly* strictly so called, and that the passages should have been thus translated?'

'(") *Arrest the monarch, and his heart enslave.*] 'The king is held captive in their flowing ringlets.' In the original as follows:

מלך אסור ברהטים

which in the Bible version is rendered "the king is held in the galleries;" and by Dr. Percy, "Lo! the king is detained in the antechamber:" while Mr. Green, not knowing what to make of the passage, has unjustifiably omitted it altogether. It is elegantly and poetically rendered by Duport: "The panting monarch clings to the walks or galleries of thy lovely form, as though bound to them with fetters."

'In ambulacris formæ inhians tuæ
Rex, ceu ligatus compede, permanet.

Michaëlis offers another interpretation: "The king is encircled in an upright (or erect) turban:" and Houbigant, uniting the present and prior parts of the verse explains it, cirri capitis tui velut purpura

 regia,

'KING SOLOMAN (*entering*).

How sweet, how beauteous art thou, O my love!
Graceful thy form, the stately palm above;
And more delicious, in my heart's repute,
Thy swelling bosom, than its clustering fruit.
Here will I banquet, here my mansion make,
Climb round my palm-tree, and its fruit partake.
More dear to me thy bosom than the sight
Of clustering grapes imbued with purple light:
Thy breath more fragrant than the honied pine;
Thy dulcet voice more exquisite than wine—
Than wine most racy, that no rival knows,
Hailed by the lips, the palate as it flows.[15]

If

regia, nodo pendens ex laquearibus: "The tresses of thy head are like the royal purple, hanging in festoons from the ceilings."

'There is no doubt, I think, that Houbigant is correct in thus uniting the two members of the verse; but רהטים must suffer much contortion to be forced into the sense of *ceilings*; its more obvious meaning being *outer galleries*, when applied to a building; or *external ornaments surrounding* an object, when employed more generally: in consequence of which Dr. Hodgson has offered the version introduced into the present text; observing justly that רהט the Chaldee radix of רהטים signifies *cucurrit;* and that hence the expression, when applied to the hair, seems to denote its waving and flowing loosely over the shoulders.'

'([15]) *Hailed by the lips, the palate as it flows.*] The whole of this passage, including the present and two prior verses, has an obscurity in the original which has much perplexed the commentators. In the Bible version it is given thus: "And the roof of thy mouth like the best wine, for my beloved that goeth down sweetly, causing the lips of those that are asleep to speak." There is no doubt that by the phrase "roof of thy mouth" is meant thy *speech* or *voice*, the cause or organ of articulation being put for the effect, or the articulation itself: and it is in this sense understood by Houbigant, who thus proposes to amend the entire passage: וחכך כיין הטוב הולך לחכי למשרים רובב שפתי ושנים. Et palatum (sc. eloquium) tuum, quasi vinum dulce, in palatum meum intrans suaviter, adrepens leniter intra labia et dentes. The alteration, however, of לדודי (for 'my *beloved*') into לחכי ('through my palate') is not only unjustifiably bold, but altogether unnecessary; since, as it is well observed by Dr. Percy, we may with Junius and Tremellius consider לדודי as in the plural number, *ad amores* (*deliciously*); the final ם being cut off by apocope, *euphoniæ gratia;* in which adverbial sense the ensuing word is also to be understood למשרים *iens amantissime rectissimeque.* The term ישנים *dormientium* ("of those that are asleep") is written in the Septuagint, Syriac, and Vulgate, as well as by Aquila and Symmachus, ושנים *et dentes* ("and the teeth"); and I have followed these authorities, as offering a sense more obvious than the former. The common reading, however, is neither destitute of meaning nor of

If Mr. Good's muse be more chaste than that of Dr. Croxal in his Fair Circassian, she is sufficiently warm and empassioned; and we are at a loss to conceive how a writer, after having fired his imagination with the glowing descriptions of personal attractions exhibited in this passage, and throughout the whole poem, should imagine that it was intended to inculcate 'the tenderness which the husband should manifest for his wife; and the deference, modesty, and fidelity with which his affections should be returned.' Ideas of pleasure rather than of duty are displayed in this poem; and the thoughts of the writer are occupied, not with the instruction, but with the enjoyment of his radiant bride.

Mo.y.

ART. XI. *A Poem on the Restoration of Learning in the East*, which obtained Mr. Buchanan's Prize. By Charles Grant, Esq., M.A, Fellow of Magdalen College. 4to. 3s. 6d. Cadell and Davies. 1805.

UNLESS the judges, appointed by the University of Cambridge to award Mr. Buchanan's Prize, were incompetent to their office, which can scarcely be supposed, Mr. Grant could have no fears in presenting himself at our tribunal; and if we bestowed commendation on Mr. Wrangham's unsuccessful attempt, (see M. R. for May last, p. 89.) the victorious poem before us might be supposed to offer higher claims to our praise. We perused Mr. Grant's verses under this impression; and, in opposition to the usual result, our expectations

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force; and implies wine of so excellent a flavor as to induce those who have indulged in it to dream of it, and converse concerning it while dreaming; or else to excite them to drink of it to excess, in consequence of which they fall asleep from inebriation, and disclose the subject of their dreams in audible speech This last version, which is adopted by the translators of our English Bible, is also adhered to by Dr. Hodgson and Melesigenio; the latter of whom interprets the passage, with rather too much poetical paraphrase, as follows:

'E umor, qual vino egregio,
Mandi tua bocca fuora
A farsi incontro a' bacci miei soave,
Che fra le labbra ancora
Di chi di sonna è carco
Dolcemente serpendo apresi il varco.

¶ It is given in like manner by Duport:

——————— placide fluens
Permulcet os, et dormientum
Prolicit e labiis loquelam.'

have not operated to his prejudice and our disappointment. Prominent as was the merit of Mr. W.'s parallel-composition, that which is the offspring of Mr. Grant's muse is its superior; since it displays a more intimate acquaintance with the state and history of the East, more minutely enlarges on the circumstances to which the poem immediately refers, and in all its references and allusions is more pointed and appropriate; while at the same time it is scarcely inferior in harmony and strength of expression, though occasionally we meet with tame couplets, and with rhimes which it would require some critical charity to tolerate. Before Mr. Grant invoked the Muse, he imbued his mind with a copious knowlege of his subject, recollecting the Horatian maxim,

Scribendi rectè sapere est principium et fons.

As the topics introduced, with the particular train of thought, cannot be more clearly or more briefly expressed than in the author's argument, we shall transcribe it, as an acceptable analysis of the poem:

'I. The *first* Part of the Poem describes the degraded state of Hindoo Literature during the latter part of the last century. The shocks which Learning sustained from the persecuting Bigotry of Aurungzebe, the Irruption of Nadir Shah, and the intestine divisions to which that irruption gave rise, are particularly noticed. II. A transition is then made to the ancient Splendor of Hindoo Literature during the period when India was governed by her native Kings. The earliest age of authentic Indian History is brought into review; some account is given of the Poetry and Philosophy of Vyasa, which distinguished succeeding times; and this Part closes with a reference to the last brilliant æra of India, when the Poet Calidasa flourished. III. *Lastly*, The Revival of Learning on the Banks of the Ganges, under the auspices of the English, and particularly of the Asiatic Society, is celebrated. The Poem concludes with anticipating the diffusion of the Arts, the Sciences, and the Religion of Great Britain, throughout the East.'

Over the blood-stained and soul-depressing picture of the first mentioned period, we wish to draw a veil; for whether in prose or in poetry, it is horrible to reflect on the miseries which are inflicted on nations by the conqueror's sword, and to perceive how severely every science and every art are blasted by bigotted intolerance. Let us contemplate the state of India previously to the times of Aurungzebe and Nadir Shah:

'Ill fated India! yet thy plains have known
The sage's voice, and harp's enraptur'd tone;
Oft have thy proud pagodas heard the sound
Of hallow'd minstrelsy, wide warbling round;
And Learning's footsteps printed every vale,
Where Jumna's waves their long-lost joys bewail.

E'en

E'en when thy towers confess'd the tyrant's pride,
Thy native arts the Moslem spear defied;
Oft, as it gleam'd around, from age to age
The smile of Learning sooth'd the battle's rage;
Oft, while the sceptre graced some milder name,
Thy gladden'd Genius sprung to ancient fame.
Though fain the song thy varying fates would trace,
And tell the triumphs of thy subject race,
What arts reviving mark'd each glorious reign,
What poets waked the tributary strain;
What thoughts divine, and Fancy's glancing ray,
Consol'd the rigours of a foreign sway:
More pleased, the Muse to earlier years ascends,
And o'er the steps of kings and sages bends,
Thy native kings and sages all thy own,
Wise in the grove, or mighty on the throne.
Where Time remote his shadowy troop displays,
She hears the voices of departed days.
Age blest with all that life or decks or cheers,
Refines, instructs, enobles, soothes, endears.
Then rose the triple Ramas, names ador'd,
To wield alike the sceptre and the sword.
Then thought Gautami, India's peerless boast,
Bright leader of the philosophic host:
Though ages interpos'd their dark'ning flight,
His distant beams illum'd the Stagirite.
Then Science smiled on man, and for his use
Arts intricate unveil'd, and lore abstruse;
Learning with all her stores enrich'd his mind;
Mild laws his will corrected, not confin'd;
Astronomy her high career *begun*,
And bade him rise from earth, to watch the sun:
To purify with pity and with dread,
Sage Tragedy her moral lesson spread;
And History round her curious glances cast,
And to the future reason'd from the past;
While Valmic's epic song, with heavenly art
Inspir'd, dilated all the gen'rous heart.'

Among the old writers of Sanscreet verse, distinguished notice is taken of

' ———Vyasa, the saint and sage,
Th' immortal Berkeley of that elder age,'

the tenet of whose philosophy coincided with that of Bishop Berkeley; viz. "that matter exists only as it is perceived. After a beautiful illustration of this anti-material hypothesis, and of the resolution of all existence into that of the Self-Existent Eternal Mind, Mr. Grant hazards a conjecture respecting the probable origin of what is commonly called the Immaterial Philosophy, from the principles of Polytheism;

ism; and as it is explanatory of Hindoo theology, we give it a place, though the passage is deformed by weak lines, marked in italics:

'Perhaps, by smooth gradations, to this end
All systems of belief unconscious tend,
That teach the infinite of nature swarms
With Gods subordinate, through endless forms,
And every object, useful, bright, malign,
Of some peculiar is the care or shrine.
Ask the poor Hindoo if material things
Exist: he answers, Their existence springs
From mind within, that prompts, protects, provides,
And moulds their beauties, or their terrors guides.
Blooms the red flow'ret? Durva blushes there.
Flash lightnings fierce? dread Indra fills the air.
The morning wakes, or high the white wave swells,
That Surya brightens, Ganga this impels.
Thus, in each part of this material scene,
He owns that matter leans on Mind unseen;
And in each object views some God pourtray'd,
This all in all, and that but empty shade;
The mind extinct, its shadows too must flee,
And all the visible forget to be.
But when the Sage is taught these Gods to deem
The powers personified of One Supreme,
He not destroys their functions, but transfers;
Their titles changes, not their characters;
Content, for many one Great Cause t' adore,
He now terms attributes what Gods before:
Yet still untouch'd that principle retains,
Mind, ever present, in all matter reigns;
His creed the same, whate'er that mind he call,
In each imprison'd, or diffus'd through all.'

When Mr. Grant arrives at what may be termed the proposed subject of his poem, the revival of Learning in consequence of the dominion of the English established in the East, he enumerates those men who have been the promoters and ornaments of Oriental literature: but in this list we are surprized that the name of *Hastings* does not appear;—a man to whose policy we are not only indebted in a great measure for our Eastern empire, but who by his patronage of Mr. Wilkins, and by the ingenious yet modest letter prefixed to that gentleman's translation of the Bhagvat Geeta, has shewn that, while Governor-General, the advancement of science was not less dear to him than those civil and commercial interests over which he immediately presided. We have not the slightest personal acquaintance with Mr. Hastings, and have been led to this remark by no feeling of private friendship, but by the imperious call of public justice:

justice: for if the name of *Wellesley* occurs, as it doubtless must, among those who have been propitious to the advancement of Learning in the East, ought that of *Hastings* to be omitted, under whose auspices the measures adapted to this end were so judiciously pre-concerted?

It is pleasing to reflect on the fact itself, that Eastern science is an object of sedulous study by our countrymen; that we transport, with the treasures, the learning of India; and that the selfish schemes of conquest and aggrandizement are combined with plans for the improvement and happiness of the country. How far we may be ultimately beneficial, time must discover: but at present, Asia cannot boast much of the blessings conferred on her by Europeans.

Mr. Wrangham having exerted his skill in delineating that great luminary of Eastern Learning, Sir Wm. Jones, and Mr. Grant having employed himself in the same grateful task, we shall transcribe this part of the present poem, that our readers may compare the two portraits:

'Accomplish'd JONES! whose hand to every art
Could unknown charms and nameless grace impart.
His was the soul, by fear nor interest *sway'd*,
The purest passions and the wisest *head*;
The heart so tender, and the wit so true,
Yet this no malice, that no weakness knew;
The song, to Virtue as the Muses dear,
Though glowing chaste, and lovely though severe.
What gorgeous trophies crown his youthful bloom,
The spoils august of Athens, and of Rome.
And, lo! untouch'd by British brows before,
Yet nobler trophies wait on Asia's shore:
There, at his magic voice, what wonders rise!
Th' astonish'd East unfolds her mysteries:
Round her dark shrines a sudden blaze he showers,
And all unveil'd the proud Pantheon towers.
Where, half unheard, Time's formless billows glide,
Alone he stems the dim discover'd tide;
Wide o'er th' expanse as darts his radiant sight,
At once the vanish'd ages roll in light.
Old India's Genius, bursting from repose,
Bids all his tombs their mighty dead disclose;
Immortal names! though long immers'd in shade,
Long lost to song, though destin'd not to fade.
O'er all the master of the spell presides,
Their march arranges, and their order guides;
Bids here or there their ranks or gleam or blaze
With hues of elder or of later days.
See, where in British robes sage Menu shines,
And willing Science opes her Sancreet mines!

His

His are the triumphs of her ancient lyres,
Her tragic sorrows, and her epic fires;
Her earliest arts, and learning's sacred store,
And strains sublime of philosophic lore:
Bright in his view their gather'd pomp appears,
The treasur'd wisdom of a thousand years.
Oh, could my verse, in characters of day,
The living colours of thy mind pourtray,
And on the sceptic, midst his impious dreams,
Flash all the brightness of their mingled beams!
Then should he know how talents various, bright,
With pure Devotion's holy thoughts unite;
And blush (if yet a blush survive) to see
What genius, honour, virtue, ought to be.
Philosopher, yet to no system tied;
Patriot, yet friend to all the world beside;
Ardent with temper, and with judgment bold;
Firm, though not stern, and though correct, not cold;
Profound to reason, or to charm us gay;
Learn'd without pride, and not too wise to pray.'

Some charming sentiments are introduced towards the close of the poem; and we were particularly pleased with those lines which are addressed to Britain as the arbitress of Asia, which charge us not to 'bare the conquering sword till Justice asks the war,' and which enforce a truth disregarded by Avarice and Ambition, that

'Justice alone can consecrate renown.'

The passage in p. 24, beginning with 'How dark,' and ending with 'history below,' reminds us of something which we have read in a country church-yard. The paragraph is common-place, and might without loss be omitted.

Mo-y.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE,

For JULY, 1805.

HISTORY.

Art. 12. *A Compendious History of the World*, from the Creation to the Dissolution of the Roman Republic. By John Newberry. With a Continuation to the Peace of Amiens, 1802. 2 Vols. 16mo. 5s. Boards. Darton and Harvey. 1804.

We have no fault to find with these little volumes, except that they want adaptation to that tender age for which their size intimates that they were designed. If this narrative were more level with the capacities of the young, and such as would engage their attention, it would rarely mislead them.

Jo.

Art.

Art. 13. *Elements of General History:* Translated from the French of the Abbe Millot. Part I. Antient History. Part II. Modern History. A new Edition. 5 Vols. 12mo. 1l. 1s. Boards. Printed at Edinburgh; London, Longman and Co.

We are glad to see these valuable works published in a cheaper and more convenient form than they have hitherto borne; their merits are too well known to call for a repetition of the commendation which we have on former occasions bestowed on them *. If we except the valuable epitome of Mr. Tytler †, we know not any performances that are intitled to supersede them, as the first guides in the vast walk of history. Jo.

Art. 14. *Essays on History*, particularly the Jewish, Assyrian, Persian, and Roman; with Examinations for the Use of Young Persons. By John Holland. 12mo. pp. 408. 5s. Boards. Printed for the Author at Manchester; sold in London by Longman and Co.

The ingredients of the entertainment here provided are on the whole excellent, but they might have been better served up. We could have wished that each section had been headed by a summary of its contents, that dates had not been so uniformly omitted, that the style had been more familiar, and the narrative more simple. The work is better calculated for mature than for young persons: but if it therefore does not so well attain its professed object, it is a performance of general utility, and is highly creditable to the diligence, information, and judgment of Mr. Holland. D.o

ANTIQUITIES.

Art. 15. *Antiquities of the Inns of Court and Chancery:* containing historical and descriptive Sketches relative to their original Foundation, Customs, Ceremonies, Buildings, Government, &c. &c. With a concise History of the English Law. By W. Herbert. Embellished with twenty-four Plates. 8vo. pp. 377. 1l. 5s. Boards. Vernor and Co. 1804.

Young men may derive some curious and valuable information from this collection of extracts: but it is to be wished that it had been more methodic and better digested. The most interesting part is the account of the instructions delivered by the superiours, and of the exercises kept by the students in the Inns of Court, which have since become obsolete. The plates have much merit. D.o

BIOGRAPHY.

Art. 16. *A Biographical Dictionary of the celebrated Women of every Age and Country.* By Matilda Betham. 12mo. pp. 774. 7s. Boards. Crosby and Co.

The fair compiler of this volume submits it to the judgment of the public with great diffidence, and intimates her conviction that it must

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* See M. R. Vol. xlviii. p. 589. Vol. l. p. 535. Vol. lx. p. 119. &c.

† See Review for March last.

have

have much occasion for their indulgence. By the aid of "*Le Dictionnaire des Femmes célèbres*," and the communications of several friends, Miss B. has furnished a volume which, we doubt not, will be received with candour, and a due degree of approbation. From its size, it cannot be expected that each article should be extended to any great length: but, as the authorities from which they are taken are usually quoted at the conclusion of each, the reader will be enabled to consult at his leisure more ample sources of information. As a compendium, arranged in alphabetical order, it will be found useful for occasional consultation.

Man.s

MEDICAL.

Art. 17. *The Soldier's Friend:* containing familiar Instructions to the Loyal Volunteers, Yeomanry Corps, and Military Men in general, on the Preservation and recovery of their Health: with a prefatory Address to Commanding Officers. By Wm. Blair, A. M. Surgeon of the Lock Hospital and Asylum, and of the Bloomsbury Dispensary, &c. A new Edition, considerably enlarged, and illustrated by eight Engravings. 12mo. pp. 311. 5s. Boards. Murray, &c.

The instructions contained in this book would have come forwards with much greater force, had they been the result of actual experience in the military department of the army. Every attempt, however, to render the services of our countrymen more effectual, and to prepare them for that change of habits which the political situation of the kingdom may at one time or another render necessary, is worthy of attention, and deserves praise.—We had occasion to notice the 1st edition of this work soon after its appearance *; and we shall only add to the observations which we then made on it, that the present edition is much amplified.

The author, in an appendix, arraigns with undue and unbecoming severity some remarks made by Mr. Travers, Surgeon to the Duke of Kent, on the readiest mode of stopping a Hæmorrhage. It does not appear to us, from an inspection of the part of Mr. Travers's pamphlet in question, that he recommends the application of the concave piece of brass, belonging to Savigny's patent Screw Tourniquet, immediately over the artery, in any other way than as the most ready mode of stopping the hæmorrhage, till medical assistance can be procured; and though this method is certainly not that which a professional man would himself practise, yet it would be difficult to prove its inefficacy to the object in view, and therefore the applicability of those terms of severe and unqualified reprehension which Mr. Blair has bestowed on it.

Yell.

Art. 18. *Report of the Progress of Vaccine Inoculation in Bengal*, from the Period of its Introduction in Nov. 1802, to the End of the Year 1803; with an Appendix, submitted to the Medical Board at Fort William. By John Shoolbred, Superintendant General of Vaccine Inoculation. 8vo. pp. 93. 2s. Blacks and Parry.

* See Rev. Vol. xxvi. N. S. p. 339.

Early

Early in the year 1801, Governor Duncan, of Bombay, wrote to Lord Elgin, the English Minister at Constantinople, requesting him to forward a supply of vaccine matter by the way of Bagdad and Bussora; where the matter might be renewed on fresh subjects, and thus have a chance of reaching Bombay in a state capable of communicating the infection. The first supplies failed: but in June 180 , a successful inoculation was effected at Bombay; and from this first inoculation the matter originally emanated, which has ever since been used in India. The matter sent from Constantinople was renewed by inoculation at Bagdad, and was then conveyed to Bussora, at the distance of from 30 to 35 days' journey; where it was again renewed, before it was transmitted to its final destination at Bombay.

It appears from the statement given by Mr. Shoolbred, that 11,166 persons were inoculated, from the period of the introduction of the cow pox into India in June 80 , to the end of the year 803; and that every effort is made, both by the heads of the Government and medical men, to diffuse this practice over every part of our settlements in the East.

Variolous inoculation was regularly practised by the Bramins in Calcutta, in the beginning of every year previous to 1803.

'They inoculated all who could pay them, regardless how near their patients were to those who either could not from indigence, or would not from principle, be inoculated; by this means spreading on every side a fatal pestilence, which annually pursued its course of misery and death.'

This practice, however, was at length interdicted by the Police; and two seasons have passed over, without bringing with them 'this dreadful scourge of humanity.' The mortality produced by natural small-pox in India is stated to be as one to three; and by the inoculated, as one to 60 or 70, of children born of European parents. The Bramins acknowledge that they lose one in 200 of those whom they inoculate; which the author considers as below the truth: but whatever estimate may be taken, it is evident that the introduction of vaccine inoculation will be the means of saving a great number of lives.

In a long appendix, the author gives various details relating to vaccination in general, and the practice in India in particular. He agrees with Dr. Pearson in thinking that the cow-pox can only be received once; that there is no such thing as a spurious pustule; and that the only disadvantage attending the use of matter taken at a late period is that it may occasionally fail.

Mr. Shoolbred took considerable pains to inquire whether there were any traces of cow pox among the cattle in India; or whether, if there were, its prophylactic powers were applied or understood: but, though many were disposed to assert that the disease was known to the Bramins from time immemorial, yet this claim was never advanced till vaccine inoculation had triumphed over all opposition to it. Something more, indeed, than mere assertions was employed to establish this point; for the surgeon of a Native regiment, stationed at Bareilly, got possession of a Sanscrit manuscript, which contained the following paragraph on the subject:

"Taking

"Taking the matter (pùya) of pimples (granthi) which are naturally produced on the udders of cows, carefully preserve it; and, before the breaking out of the small-pox (sitala), making with a small instrument a small puncture, (like that made by a gnat,) in a child's limb, introduce into the blood as much of that matter as is measured by the fourth part of a *racti*; thus the wise physician renders the child secure from the breaking out of the small-pox."

This passage was suspected to be an interpolation; and the conjecture was proved to be well founded, by collating the manuscript from which it was taken, with others.

It was hoped that the Hindoos, from the veneration which they bear to the cow, would practise vaccine inoculation with ardour: but the circumstance of the prophylactic being connected with that animal seems to have operated rather as an objection, than as a recommendation to its adoption.

Yall.

Art. 19. *Dissertatio Medica Inauguralis, de Ophthalmia Ægypti*, &c. *i. e.* A Medical Inaugural Dissertation on Egyptian Ophthalmia. By Henry Dewar. 8vo. pp. 40. 2s. 6d. Murray.

It is not often that inaugural dissertations are considered to be proper objects of general publication; and indeed we are inclined to think that, under that form, original observations are little likely to attract attention: because it is well known that such essays are written in obedience to university statutes, and do not require the possession of any claims to originality. Dr. Dewar, however, having been employed in the English Army in Egypt, had an opportunity of seeing numerous examples of the disease which he now describes. He gives a perspicuous account of the history of Ophthalmia, and informs us that the Bedouin Arabs, though not so much affected with the disease as their neighbours in Egypt, were by no means free from it. He thinks that there is little ground for dividing Ophthalmia into the Sthenic and Asthenic form, the mild and severe, or the acute and chronic; and he is disposed to consider the different characters under which it appears, as varieties, depending on concurring circumstances. He enumerates the causes which have been regarded by different authors as capable of producing Ophthalmia; and though he does not lay so much stress on the effects of exhalations as many others have done, yet he conjectures 'that something may be attributable to the particular form of vegetable exhalations in Egypt, as having a tendency to produce that peculiar debility which ends in inflammation of the eyes.' He conceives that it is the union of various causes, and not the operation of any one in particular, which produces the disease. He has no doubt that the complaint is capable of being propagated by contagion; and he adduces the following interesting quotation from a Thesis published by Dr. James Armstrong in 1789, to prove the introduction of Ophthalmia into a ship in that way:

"In the month of January 1782, his Majesty's ship Albemarle, coasting by Hispaniola, met with a slave ship, from which three sailors were impressed. One of the three laboured under a slight inflammation of the eyes; and on being questioned concerning the

cause of it, he answered that he had just recovered from a very painful disease, with which almost every one in the slave ship had been affected, except the master. On the 4th day after these men had been brought into the King's ship, two of the sailors complained that they had been seized on the preceding night with an acute pain in the fore part of the head, and at the same time with a troublesome sensation in the eyes, as if dust had been thrown into them. The next morning, many more said that they had been seized in a similar way in the course of the night; and on the morning of the 7th day from that on which the first two were affected, twenty-two were rendered unfit for duty. Some were confined to bed by the severity of the pain in the head, which they were unable to raise from the pillow; and in them the inflammation was so considerable, as to make the colour of the eyes resemble raw flesh. The disease becoming every day worse, the captain thought it necessary to cut off all communication between the sick and the healthy, in order prevent it from spreading further. After that measure had been adopted, the contagion affected only twenty-five more; and in about five weeks from the time of its being brought into the ship, it entirely disappeared."

The means here recommended for the cure of Ophthalmia are such as are usually employed. A stimulant ointment, composed of two drachms of red precipitate, with an ounce and half of Goulard, and four ounces of fresh butter, applied to the tarsi, with a camel-hair pencil, twice in a day, Dr. Dewar has found to be extremely serviceable in six cases of the most acute form of the disease; being the whole number in which he employed this application.

Yell.

AFFAIRS OF IRELAND.

Art. 20. *Thoughts on the Civil Condition and Relations of the Roman Catholic Clergy, Religion, and People in Ireland.* By Theobald Mac Kenna, Esq. Barrister at Law. 8vo. pp. 193. 4s. 6d. Sewed. Budd. 1805.

Though a serious Catholic, this author displays the views of an enlightened and liberal statesman. Complaints, he observes, are sometimes made of the preponderant weight of the clergy in the catholic body, while the very persons urging them are those who increase the evil, by their resolute resistance of every attempt to increase the consequence of the lay members of that communion. If, he says, you would counterbalance the clerical influence, let offices and situations of consideration in civil life be accessible to the laity. If the undue influence of the reverend pastors is to be checked and prevented, it is not less impolitic than unjust to deprive them of what properly belongs to their functions; since this cannot be done without lessening the authority of their instructions, and the efficacy of their example. He declares himself to be by no means hostile to the protestant establishment; and he fully admits the injustice and impolicy of offering it any violence: but he protests against proscribing that system which administers to the wants of the bulk of the population, though consisting very much of the middling and lower classes of the community. The piety, morality, and all the valuable social qualities of this vast body, are nurtured and sustained by the catholic religion. This is the instrument by which

which alone they can be made useful and deserving. Vilify, discredit, and discountenance this, he says, and your subjects become devoid of religion or moral worth. He maintains that a wise and parental government is required to cherish and protect the doctrine and discipline from which such beneficial effects result; and he claims for this faith a kind of establishment, altogether distinct from and in no way entrenching on that which already enjoys this security. His demands for this purpose are surely too humble to awaken jealousy in the most suspicious, and too moderate to call forth discontent in the most penurious. He would have Government pay the Bishops and Dignitaries, and for this purpose he requires only 12,000l. per ann. His scheme for the encouragement of the inferior clergy would extend very considerable aid to that valuable order, while it would form scarcely any burden on the public. The whole of the author's remarks on the interest of Government in recognizing and protecting the catholic communion, and in countenancing and rewarding its ministers, must be deemed clear and convincing, and extremely deserving of attention. If these matters are to undergo any settlement, (which it is to be hoped they will, and without loss of time,) we think that the author of this tract would be a person highly proper to be consulted on so desirable an arrangement. In no work that has fallen into our hands, is the grave subject under consideration so fully and ably treated as in that now before us. In no other, will the reader find the importance of the petitioning body, the light in which it ought to be regarded, and the benefits likely to result from magnanimous and just measures with respect to it, so clearly and satisfactorily exhibited.

In the concluding part of the pamphlet, the writer animadverts very freely on men and measures: but there are many of his allusions which we are not able to trace. Some of his reprehensions and injunctions are far from being judicious, or from harmonizing with the preceding part of the work. His exhortations to his brethren, in the case of a repeated denial to their suit, though they were hardly to be expected from a catholic, are doubtless highly becoming, as well as sanctioned by dispassionate reflection.

As friends to the empire, and as well-wishers to the catholic claims, we make our warm acknowlegements to the author, for the laudable pains and industry exerted by him in elucidating a subject, respecting which we deem it of very high importance to enlighten the public, in order to facilitate the success of an application, the renewed and frequent rejection of which we cannot contemplate without alarm. Jo.

Art. 21. *Reflections on the Policy and Justice of an immediate and general Emancipation of the Catholics of Great Britain and Ireland.* By the late Lord Petre. To which are added some Strictures on the same Subject, by the Editor, (first published in the Year 1782). 8vo. 3s. 6d. Booker.

We are very sorry that this sensible and gentlemanly pamphlet, from the pen of the late Lord Petre, escaped our notice at the time when the subject to which it refers occupied general attention. With

brevity, yet with perspicuity, his Lordship discusses the merits of the case; accurately weighing the political effects which might be apprehended from a general emancipation of the catholics of the empire. To the objections which were urged as arising from the coronation oath, he replies with much ability; clearly proving that this oath can only be regarded as referring to the King in his *executive*, not in his *legislative* capacity. Lord Petre's manly reply to those who charge the catholics with believing in the power of the pope, or priest, to dispense with the obligation of an oath, cannot fail of exciting a smile, but it will be a smile of approbation:

'I have no courage to do such a thing, [viz. take the oath prescribed on a peer's assuming his seat]; and if there was a priest or prelate of any description wicked or impious enough to propose it to me, the first impulse I should feel would be to *knock him down.*'

Though Lord Petre disclaims 'all sort of acrimony,' the enmity of a certain individual towards the catholics provokes recrimination; and the mitre is represented as converting 'the philosophical atheist of the college into the zealous apostle of the pulpit.'

The strictures added by the Editor consist of an answer to Lord Geo. Gordon's letters to the Earl of Shelburne, which we noticed at the time of their appearance. See Rev. Vol. lxviii. p. 533. Moy.

Art. 22. *Reply to Melancthon's Letter to Dr. Troy*, titular Archbishop of Dublin. By the Rev. Lewis Roberts. 8vo. 2s. Booker.

According to Mr. Roberts, the Letter of Melancthon is not so mild, moderate, and candid as that signature imports. We find him here charged with dealing in misrepresentation, sarcasm, and illiberal insinuation; and the ground of his address to Dr. Troy is represented as idle and nugatory. However, after all the dextrous thrusts and parries of Mr. R., we cannot allow him to be superior to his protestant antagonist. Is the absolute subjection of the pope to Bonaparte no matter for deliberation, at the present time, when the affairs of the catholics of Ireland, who own him as their spiritual head, are under consideration? It is artful in a catholic to treat this subject with playfulness and ridicule: but might not the farce at Paris be the prelude to a serious tragedy in Ireland, if the pope were to afford his spiritual sanction (and sanction it he must if he should receive the order) to the invasion of Ireland? Mr. R. tells us that 'no law or regulation of the pope can have any vigour or effect, except in those countries in which it is legally and publicly announced, and in which it is legally and publicly accepted:' but this explanation of the pope's *Supremacy* does not meet all the supposed difficulties of the case. Though this gentleman thanks Melancthon for his scheme of a *Concordat* for Ireland, he plainly informs him that it cannot be settled without the concurrence of the pope, who must be a party to his own exclusion: indeed, his exclusion we find to be impossible on the principle of Catholicism, for Mr. R. represents it to be the universal principle of his church, in all its ramifications, to acknowlege the spiritual supremacy of the Roman Pontiff.

We enter not into lesser points, on which Mr. R. attacks Melancthon.

D.o

Art

Art. 23. *Hints to the Manufacturers of Great Britain, on the Consequences of the Irish Union*; and the System since pursued of borrowing in England for the Service of Ireland. By the Earl of Lauderdale. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Longman and Co.

Watching with a careful eye over the prosperity of our manufactures, (a material feature in our national resources,) this nobleman looks with fearful apprehension to the system adopted respecting Ireland since the Union; and he anticipates considerable inconveniences from the large remittances, which must annually be made from this part of the empire to Great Britain. If we take the sum annually paid by Ireland to Absentees at 2,890,000l. and 1,500,000l. to be the interest of debt due to England, the necessary yearly remittance will be 4,390,000l. Now supposing that the balance of trade in favour of Ireland will provide for 1,400,000*l.* of this sum, there will remain nearly three millions, the remittance of which will require some new arrangement. As this sum cannot be annually paid in bullion, Lord L. very naturally supposes that commodities must be sent to Great Britain to be exchanged for money; and that the unfavourable exchange, which this measure must create, will operate as a bounty on the exportation of Irish goods, by which our home manufactures will be considerably affected. We shall not at present enter into this speculation; which, if controverted, Lord L. promises farther to illustrate: we trust, however, that it will not be overlooked by our Ministers, since it is here maintained that the freedom of trade has been imperceptibly but effectually cramped and impaired by the financial arrangements between England and Ireland.

Art. 24. *Thoughts on the alarming State of the Circulation, and on the Means of redressing the pecuniary Grievances of Ireland.* By the Earl of Lauderdale. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Longman and Co.

After having maturely investigated all the circumstances of the case, Lord Lauderdale establishes these propositions: 1st, That the difference existing between the value of gold and the paper of the Bank of England arises from the depreciation of its paper. 2. That the increase of Bank paper is the sole cause of its depreciation. 3. That the reduction of the quantity of Bank paper is the only remedy for the existing evil.

It is manifest that, when banks are forced to cash their notes on demand, prudence will oblige them to confine their issue of notes according to their ability to discharge them: but, when they are restricted, for whatever reason, from cash payments, this check on their conduct is removed, and the emission of paper becomes excessive. Thus it was with the Banks of England and Ireland. The latter, before the restriction bill, usually had a paper circulation of about 600,000l.: but, after the issue of specie was prohibited, its notes amounted to 3,000,000l., or to five times the former quantity; to which circumstance his lordship attributes the alarming state of the currency of that country.

When Lord L. proceeds to discuss the means of effecting a reduction of the Bank paper of Ireland, and of preventing its future re-emission, he recommends one or all of these measures: 1. Calling in the debts due to Government. 2. Borrowing money on loan. 3. In-

creasing the capital of the Bank. It is the opinion of this politician that, if the present excessive issue of paper were restricted, and the Bank confined to a certain quantity, coin would again come into use; of which, he is persuaded, the quantity in Ireland has rather increased than diminished since the restriction.

When, at the conclusion of his pamphlet, Lord L. glances at the Bank of England, he does not attribute any blame to its Directors; though he is convinced that they have extended their paper beyond the bounds of discretion, and that they, as well as the Irish Directors, should think of a diminution of the quantity of their notes. Mo-y.

Art. 25. *A Word of Advice to the trading and monied Interests of Ireland,* upon the momentous Subject of the alarming Scarcity of the smaller Denominations of Silver Coin. With some Suggestions upon the most feasible Mode of regulating the Application for a New Coinage, so as permanently to secure the People of Ireland from a Repetition of this Calamity. 8vo. pp. 25. Dublin printed. 1804.

To remedy the evils arising from the scarcity of small silver coin and copper in Ireland, and from the issue of silver-notes, this author (who, we are told, is an advocate at the Irish bar) recommends '*an immediate coinage and issue of small silver and halfpence, made especially for this country, and not current in England, so alloyed as to be more absolutely below the possible average price of bullion or copper than the present denomination of English shilling and halfpenny are, or shall in future be, and so much enhanced in intrinsic value by exquisite workmanship as to counterbalance the deficiency of intrinsic value by the security it will afford against the attempts of counterfeiters.*'

Such a coinage, it is contended, would meet every possible grievance: but, whatever may be the sanguine expectations of the writer, we apprehend that, as long as the rate of exchange is against Ireland, her coin, though adulterated below the sterling standard, must be drained from her; unless manufactures, in lieu of specie, be transmitted to liquidate the balance against her. As Ireland is admitted to be in a very singular predicament, with no prospect for some time of a favourable rate of exchange, (both the balance of trade and that of remittances being against her,) we must own that we consider the measure here recommended as a temporizing expedient; though we would not withhold the praise of good intention from this patriotic projector.

The author feelingly portrays the melancholy effects of the Absentee system; and of that inattention to the comfort and morals of the lower classes of the Irish, which has for a long time prevailed. Do

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

Art. 26. *The Experienced Officer*; or Instructions by the General of Division, Wimpffen, to his Sons, and to all young Men intended for the Military Profession: being a Series of Rules laid down by General Wimpffen, to enable Officers of every Rank to carry on War, in all its Branches and Descriptions, from the least important Enterprizes and Expeditions, to the decisive Battles which involve

volve the Fate of Empires. The corrected and revised Edition of the latest Date, illustrated by Notes. With an Introduction, by Lieut. Col, Macdonald, of the 1st Battalion of Cinque Port Volunteers, F.R.S. &c. 8vo. pp. 211. 5s. Boards. Egerton. 1804.

Col. Macdonald's late translation of the Tactics of the French Army was mentioned by us with deserved encomium in our 43d Vol. p. 215; and we learn that it has experienced universal approbation. The appearance of the present tract lays the public under fresh obligations to the zeal, intelligence, and activity of the Colonel; and though the opinions, which he delivers in his introductory pages, respecting the invasion of this country, have not yet been verified, we know not that hence his judgment is to be questioned, or the danger to be contemned. Perhaps, on the contrary, the delay only gives strength and magnitude to the efforts of the enemy. At any rate, relaxation and false security on our part must be doubly prejudicial to us.

The translator states that this work is in great repute on the continent, particularly among French officers, and that it has 'run through several editions with increased interest.' It treats on the duties of Vedettes, by day and by night; on advanced Guards; on foraging and reconnoitring Detachments; on Encampments; on the attack of the hollow square, the column, lines, and intrenchments; on passing defiles and rivers; on surprising a town, or an army; on the wants and requisites, on the assembling and the marches, of a large army; on offensive and defensive war; and on the great battles which alone decide the fate of kingdoms. It must be supposed that these various topics are not very elaborately discussed in 140 octavo pages: but the work is rather to be considered as a manual, or abstract; and on all these points, a sufficient sketch of the officer's duty is traced, to render the volume a valuable camp-companion: especially when the rules and advice are considered as proceeding from a soldier of such established reputation and experience as General Wimpffen possesses.

The notes added by the translator contain many remarks worthy of notice. Among other observations, we find the Colonel strongly maintaining the utility of the Pike, for rear-rank men, in coincidence with the famous Marshal Saxe, and with many recent writers. We confess that we are somewhat surprized that no adoption of a plan of this nature has yet taken place.

G. 2.

POLITICAL.

Art. 27. *Remarks on the probable Conduct of Russia and France towards this Country;* also on the Necessity of Great Britain becoming independent of the Northern Powers for her maritime Supplies, and recommending (as the only Means of attaining that most important Object) the Encouragement of the British Shipping Interest, and the Cultivation of Naval Stores in Upper and Lower Canada: including Observations on the Report of the Society of Ship-Owners; the Commerce of the Mediterranean, the Canal, Wet Docks, and

other Improvements in the Port of London; and on the British Settlements in North America. 8vo. pp. 107. 3s. Asperne, &c. 1805.

An apology is made by the author for dedicating this Miscellany to Mr. Pitt, and with reason: for as the minister's time is precious, he should not have called his attention, as if he had nothing to do, to such a variety of topics, but have confined his remarks to the specific object of his pamphlet—the Shipping Interest. Mr. Pitt requires no hints from this writer on the policy of Russia, and on the probable designs of France towards this country; nor was it requisite, after the discussions which have occurred, to blot any more paper with obvious common-place observations. If the facts be, as here stated, that Ship-Owners are engaged in a ruinous concern,—that few ships are building in the river except by Government,—that new ship breakers are starting up every day, who are making fortunes on the wrecks of our commercial marine,—and that the Wet Dock regulations will destroy our West-India nursery for seamen,—it is patriotic to direct the eyes of the minister to these points; and they would be more likely to be regarded, had they been "unmixed with other matter."

No doubt can be entertained of the importance of preserving the commerce of the Mediterranean; nor of the wisdom of rendering ourselves, if possible, independant of the Northern Powers for naval stores. We should consider how far it is possible to obtain hemp, timber, pitch, tar, &c. from British North America; and if it be practicable, which this writer maintains, no time should be lost in prosecuting this object. Canada is known to produce timber of various kinds in the greatest abundance; and though some difficulties obstruct the cultivation of hemp, they are here represented as not insurmountable.—But why think of distant commerce, and of improving a remote colony, if the case of Britain is desperate,' if 'we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves, and if we have no other remedy than—*Hope?*'

Moy.

VOYAGES *and* TRAVELS.

Art. 28. *Modern Discoveries;* or, a Collection of Facts and Observations, principally relative to the various Branches of Natural History, resulting from the geological, topographical, botanical, physiological, mineralogical, and philosophical Researches of celebrated modern Travellers in every Quarter of the Globe. Carefully translated, prepared, and reprinted from the Works of the most eminent Authors, by Francis Blagdon, Esq. Vols. v.—viii. containing Prof. Pallas's Travels in Southern Russia. 12mo. 5s. each Vol.; or, on Royal Paper, with coloured Maps, &c. 7s. Boards. Ridgway.

We are happy to learn that this judicious and useful collection has experienced the approbation and encouragement of the public. The present volumes will not be found inferior to the preceding. With the exception of the Dedication to the Emperor Alexander, which arrived too late for insertion in its proper place, they contain a complete translation of Pallas's Travels through the Southern Provinces of the Russian Empire;—a translation which will not suffer by com-

parison with that of the splendid quarto edition of the same work*. All the plates illustrative of character and manners have been retained; and, 'from the few views given in the original work, a specimen has been selected, which is by far the most interesting, as it exhibits the mode of travelling and encamping adopted by the Tartars; and from the back ground of this plate, the reader will be able to form a tolerable idea of the general appearance of the country over which the author pursued his course, as well as of the heavy nature of which the landscapes, drawn on such a region, must partake.'

The passages marked by inverted commas are translated from the former Travels, published 1768, and evince Mr. Blagden's anxiety to bestow every proper attention on the execution of his undertaking.

By very satisfactory reasons, assigned in an advertisement prefixed to the 8th vol. the Publisher and the Editor have been mutually induced to suspend their former mode of publication; designing to resume it on the following plan:—'A *complete work*, of whatever extent it may happen to be, will be published at *one and the same time*, instead of the present mode of publishing each volume separately. By this method, a greater portion of time will be afforded to every person concerned in the undertaking, which must consequently receive a greater share of attention in its execution; while the advantage to be derived by the reader, from this new arrangement, is too obvious to need remark.'

Mr. B. pointedly contradicts a report that the publication is on the eve of being abandoned; and, as friends to every laudable method of facilitating access to the sources of useful knowlege, we hope that he will persevere in the prosecution of his design.

Mo-y.

POETRY.

Art. 29. *Agricolæ Puer, poema Roberti Bloomfield celeberrimum; in versus Latinos redditum. Autore* Gulielmo Clubbe, LL.B. 8vo. 3s. Cadell and Davies.

It gives us pleasure to announce Mr. Clubbe's complete version of Mr. Bloomfield's poem, "The Farmer's Boy." Of the first book, intitled *Ver*, we took some notice in M.R Vol. xliii. p. 216. N. S.; and the lovers of elegant Latinity, especially learned foreigners who do not read our language, will feel themselves obliged by the addition of the *Æstas, Autumnus*, and *Hiems*. It is however impossible, in a Latin version, precisely to express every idea of the original; for the Roman poets afford no terms by which "*a brick floor*" and "*a hoop'd keg*" could be designated; and though Mr. Clubbe's line,

'*Servorum egreditur subridens Vernula et ipsa*,'

be as near the original as it could be made, it does not declare the quality of the servant, mentioned by Mr. B.; who, from her vocation, might least of all be supposed to attend the labours of the wheat harvest:

"E'en the domestic laughing *dairy maid*."

* See Rev. Vols. xliii. and xlvi. N. S.

Having

Having adverted to the Harvest, we shall transcribe, as a specimen of Mr. Clubbe's execution, that part of SUMMER which includes a picture of *reaping*, *gleaning*, and the joy of the farmer on observing his teams bringing home the corn:

'Hic NATURA sedens varia inter agrestia dona
Ipsa vocat – "Validi MESSORES huc cito ferte
"Inque opus acclines animos Cerealiaque arma."
Primo fasce caput mox attolente, juventus
Plus solito fervore viget ipsa senectus.
Non locus hic rastris—Cœlestia munera dantur
Omnibus; O quibus est penuria nuda sodalis,
Vobis (vos erga sic stat divina voluntas)
Partibus ex æquis hæc munera læta parantur.
Ite domum Matres! vestram et deponite messem—
Ite domum pueri! vestros atque addite fasces.

'Acriter intendens nervos, solisque calori
Fortiter oppositus, Messor cum falce per agrum
Vi furit et raptim proceras sternit aristas:
Gramina sub segetes nascentia intacta relinquens.
Hucce *Salusque Focusque!* nec adsitis pede lento;
Sit domus hic vobis et seram ludite in horam:
Omnibus optatos comites salvere jubemus.

'Stat tristis deserta domus; nam sola superstes
Servorum egreditur subridens Vernula et ipsa,
Ipsa suas partes non dedignata laboris.
Mox etiam Dominus de mensâ surgit, obesus,
Lentus, iners, largis nimis indulgensque lagenis.
Omnia sunt menti; videt unumquemque labori
Acriter intentum, jumenta et plaustra citantur
Vocibus et loris; fasces hic tendit onustos,
Ille strigas vertit, nec quidquam rastra relinquunt.
Exuitur vestis quanquam levis aptaque Soli
Nunc onus, in gelidâ caute et seponitur umbra;
Hic jacet, irato torvoque tuente Molosso
Custode, accedat propius si forte viator:
Unusquisque jocos etiam petulantius effert;
Rusticum et ingenium formosâ virgine captum
Urbana affectat, præsens numenque fatetur.'

We are sorry to add that this elegant version, like the part which we formerly mentioned, is deformed by a few blunders; some of which are so gross that we can scarcely attribute them to any other source than the error of the press.

In *Autumnus*, l. 318. we meet with the expression *Exudent amnes*, which will probably excite a smile from the novelty of the idea. Of sweating rivers, we never before heard: but if we read *Exundent amnes*, *i. e.* rivers overflowing their banks, we shall be directed to a circumstance which not unfrequently attends rivers in the decline of the year.

In

In *Hiems*, l. 65. we have '*ferialia ludia*,' though *ludi* (games) never occur in the neuter gender: perhaps Mr. C. meant *ludicra*, pastimes or gambols. L. 341. *invice* for *invicem*. L. 207. should run thus:

'*Debilis ex natû hic, ex partû debilis illa*,'

by a well known rule in Syntax: "*Hic et ille*," &c.

We have observed other verbal errors, besides those corrected in the list of errata, which is a matter to be regretted; because works in a dead language require peculiar correctness.

May.

Art. 30. *Harry Dee*, or the Scotchman detected, a Poem in four Parts, by Edward Longshanks. 8vo. 1s. Jordan and Co.

In a strain of low humour and low allusion, the political life of a certain nobleman is here related, with a particular reference to some recent transactions. Harry Dee is traced

'From that chill clime beyond the Tweed,
Where honest men are scarce indeed,'

to London town, where he is cherished by *Tiger*, and becomes a great favourite with *John Bull;* in consequence of which he is entrusted with the iron chest. *Jack Tar*, however, suspects that *Harry* and his man *Trot* are not so honest as they should be, goes to Mrs. *Knab*, of Threadneedle-street, to make inquiries, and alarms John Bull:

'Harry is then desir'd to state,
And ev'ry circumstance relate,
And all the different times to count
He slyly went to old KNAB's mount;
He's ask'd to state the different sums
But Harry answers all by mums.'

More poetry of the same sort may be had by purchasing the pamphlet.

Do

Art. 31. *Two Letters from Sandy M'Shuffle to Donald M'Shift*, his old Friend and Shool-fellow in Scotland. Containing a poetical Account of the recent Fall of a great Statesman. 8vo. 2s. Symonds.

Sandy M'Shuffle, in the manner of our old friend Simkin, details to his countrymen the whole of the business relative to Lord Melville; he puts the 10th Report and the whole debate on Mr. Whitbread's motion into verse; and by the mode of his narrative, he has contrived to exhibit certain parts of this affair in a ludicrous point of view.

Mr. Pitt's speech, as given by this poetical reporter, is no bad specimen of the humour and versification of this sly satyrist:

'These fine resolutions at length being done,
The House look'd resolv'd to resolve every one—
When Willy attack'd 'em, disdainful of fear,
In accents emphatic, and flowing and clear,
That seem'd, as his accents most commonly do,
To say, "Mister Whitbread, I'll soon silence you!"
That when he had once tried the strength of his lungs,
The rest of the House might as well hold their tongues.

And

And who could have doubted, indeed, if he tried,
His strength and his *firmness* would soon turn the tide?
Though never was less by his eloquence won—
To this purpose he spoke—as it happen'd, to none:
"The Hon'rable Gentleman, when he began,
Engag'd he would speak like a temperate man;
Yet, when in the thick of his subject, he found
His temper forsook him, and fell to the ground:
And why? when I make it appear that the nation
Has lost not a jot by all this peculation."
At this a rude clamour express'd indignation.
A cry of "Hear, ! hear !" from all quarters was heard,
Which sometimes may mean that they won't hear a word.

'Now don't you think, Donald, for all they could say,
They couldn't have reason'd this doctrine away?—
Some people, determin'd his lordship to cross,
Very pertly inquire if our *honour's* no loss;
And little conceive how it shocks common sense
To confound empty words with pounds, shillings, and pence.

'But this disrespect Willy Pitt didn't mind;
He's always prepar'd to return it *in kind:*
Resolv'd to go on, on whatever he's bent,
He call'd them indecent—and then on he went:
And though his placidity too he'd forgot,
He had a good reason which Whitbread had not.
He thought that the House, for the good of the nation,
Had best *re-investigate investigation*;
And boldly maintain'd, what will bear no denial,
That his valuable friend hadn't had a fair trial—
(For, being a nobleman, Donald,—a Lord,
They only requir'd, his Right Hon'rable *word*;
Nor gave him a chance of such Old Bayley laws
As might purge his great name by *quirks, quibbles,* and *flaws,*)
Proposing, at length, that a motion be pass'd
For another Committee to sit on the last;
And there, he was sure, many facts might be brought
To prove he was not *quite so bad* as they thought.
'Twas cruel, he said, by the tongue or the pen
To force him to say what himself might condemn.
Now I don't think this reason was politic quite,
Because it implied there was danger he might.
Then he whisk'd their attentions about and about
On what was paid here, or was there taken out;
On points where you know that his genius ne'er slumbers,
Of payments and balances, figures and numbers;
From which it appear'd there was matter in store,
To say for his Hon'rable Friend a deal more;
Nay, prov'd from such sources, to puzzle and spite'em,
'Twas easy to plead for him *ad infinitum.*'

We

We usually read of the Commons House of Parliament, but Sandy M'Shuffle would surely have us believe that it is the *Comical* house of Parliament. Mo-y.

Art. 32. *A Poetical Epistle to the Right Hon. William Pitt.* 4to. 2s. 6d. Gray and Son. 1805.

The ministerial life of Mr. Pitt makes no enviable figure in the pages of this poetical historian; who boldly undertakes, with the freedom and poignancy of satire, to trace the Premier's career, from the brilliant promise of his rising sun to the dark and cloudy atmosphere which at present envelopes it. "How art thou fallen, O Lucifer! son of the morning!" is the melancholy burden of the song; and it is painful to reflect that Poetry, in the present instance, has so much plain truth, in plain prose, to justify her delineations. We shall not notice the facts on which the poet descants, to shew that Mr. Pitt has degenerated, and has fallen from his once proud elevation to a state mortifying to himself and humbling to the nation: but we shall satisfy ourselves with transcribing the conclusion of this bold expostulation, in which the satirist prophetically anticipates the fatal consequences of those measures which form the prominent features of Mr. Pitt's administrations.

'Such, Son of CHATHAM, is thy boasted claim
To rank with statesmen in the rolls of fame;
Such thy *past* deeds—but in the womb of fate
(Thy numerous offspring) greater ills await.
The muse prophetic sees with startled eyes,
O'er Albion's realm the storm of ruin rise,
To other shores her sail sees Commerce turn,
While Genius, Freedom, Arts, neglected mourn.
Pale and dejected see Britannia stand,
The sacred Trident trembling in her hand;
Her highest honour, and her proudest boast
To guard from hostile arms her sea-girt coast;
Who once the scourge of France, the dread of Spain,
Stretch'd her firm sceptre o'er the subject main,
While vanquish'd nations heard her thunders roll
From distant Ganges to the frozen Pole;
How great, how honor'd once avails her not,
Lost her fair lilies, and her fame forgot!
For thee, thy fancied race of glory run,
Thy lofty pride subdu'd—thy influence gone,
As Marius yielding to the storms of fate,
Amid the wrecks of fallen Carthage sate,
Thou seem'st, amid thy country's silent gloom,
The broken column of a mould'ring Dome.'

The notes form a proper commentary to the text; which, if it has not all the nerve that satire should possess, yet manifests considerable force. Alliteration in one place is carried to excess;

—— 'Apostate *from fair Freedom's friends.*' Do

MISCELLANEOUS.

Art. 33. *The Juvenile Tourist;* or Excursions through various Parts of the Island of Great Britain. Illustrated with Maps, and interspersed

spersed with historical Anecdotes and poetical Extracts. In a Series of Letters to a Pupil. Second Edition, with Alterations and Improvements. Including an original Account of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, and an Outline of the populous Village of Islington. By John Evans, A.M., Islington. 12mo. 5s. 6d. Boards. Longman and Co. 1805.

Much agreeable information is collected in this volume, which contains Tours to the south, east, west, and midland parts of Great Britain. The quotations from the poets and other authors are numerous; and several of the writer's own reflections shew him to be both the patron of good morals and the friend of liberty. This kind of publication for children, even though it should be merely compiled from other sources, may be very usefully substituted for many of their story-books, which are founded on fiction. Man.

Art. 34. *A Picture of Worthing*; to which is added an Account of Arundel and Shoreham, with other Parts of the surrounding Country. By John Evans, A.M. 12mo. 3s. Boards. Arch.

Worthing, a small fishing town on the coast of Sussex, has lately become a place of resort for sea-bathing, and has in course received many alterations and additions. Mr. Evans states that, in the summer of 1804, he was one of its visitors; and that, finding the want of a descriptive account of the place and its neighbourhood, he was induced to minute down his own observations, and to augment them by reference to various sources of information after his return to London. The valetudinarian and the idler, who lounge away the weary hour in the confines of Worthing, will find themselves indebted to Mr. Evans for the pains which he has taken, in thus compiling an amusing and useful vade-mecum. Of Worthing itself, little can be said, in the department of history, and not much in the way of description: but numerous adjacent objects of attention, towns, villages, castles, &c. contribute to fill Mr Evans's pages; as a visit to them will contribute to occupy the time and increase the pleasure of the traveller. G.2.

Art. 35. *Edwy and Bertha*; or the Force of Connubial Love. By John Corry. 12mo. 1s. 6d. Crosby.

The period to which this historical romance refers was that of the ninth century, when the renowned Alfred sat on the English throne. Edwy distinguished himself as a warrior in the struggles between the English and the Danes: but at length, in a fatal contest, he was subdued and made their prisoner. The scene of his confinement in a dungeon at York gives occasion to the writer to display the force of connubial love, in the tender interview between Edwy and Bertha. While the former is here awaiting the summons of the executioner, Alfred arrives and triumphs in his turn over the Danes. Edwy is saved: but the sudden transition from sorrow to joy is too powerful for Bertha, and she expires on hearing the news.—It may be easily supposed that, from such interesting events, much sensibility may be excited by a skilful author; and such is certainly the effect produced in the present instance. Man.

SINGLE SERMONS.

Art. 36. *The Progress of Error concerning the Person of Christ*: delivered at the Unitarian Chapel in Essex-street, March 31, 1805. By Thomas Belsham. 8vo. 1s. Johnson.

This

This intelligent and strenuous advocate for the Unitarian doctrine commences his office of pastor to the Unitarian Society in Essex-street, by reprobating the popular opinions respecting the Person of Christ, by contending for his proper Humanity, and by urging the importance of obtaining correct sentiments on this head, in order to be secured from Christian Idolatry. Mr. B. represents the opinion of the first disciples concerning Christ to have been that he was a Man, like other men; and he is persuaded that, while the Christian church consisted only of Jewish converts, no other idea was entertained. When, however, the Church extended itself to the Gentile world, the converts from polytheism, he supposes, either to avoid the reproach of being the followers of a crucified Jew, or from the habit of deification, soon changed their admiration and reverence for their Master into adoration, considering him as a Mortal invested with the honours of divinity; and hence, he thinks, the progress was easy to a belief in his absolute equality with the Father, and in the Trinity, which in the fifth or sixth century assumed its proper shape.

To what may be termed a history of the Trinity, Mr. B. subjoins some useful reflections; in which he urges the infinite importance of inquiring after Christian truth, in order that correct notions may be formed respecting the proper object of religious worship. He will not allow Error to be altogether harmless, nor to shelter itself under the usual pretext, viz. that there are good men of all persuasions. Truth is a jewel which the preacher considers as beyond all price; and he exhorts his new flock to make every exertion towards its attainment. Mo-y.

Art. 37. *Self Defence.*—By the Rev. Cornelius Miles, Captain of Volunteers. 8vo. 6d. Champante and Co.

Wearing a red as well as a black coat, this gentleman has not improperly taken for his motto the words of Hamlet:

> "'Tis not alone my inky cloak,
> Nor customary suits of solemn black,
> That can denote me truly."

Yet it must not hence be concluded that the Rev. Captain is enamoured of war, and longs to flesh his newly acquired sword. He is thoroughly aware of the discordance between the spirit of the gospel and the spirit of war; he wishes to live in peace with all men: but he maintains that this is not always possible, and that a case may exist in which war is necessary and inevitable. The golden age is fled; and as long as the malevolent are prepared to injure, and the powerful to commit unprincipled aggression, so long will self-defence be justifiable. Mr. Miles confines this principle within the strictest limit, and applies his argument only to war purely *defensive*. Do

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CORRESPONDENCE.

S. P. accuses us of mistake, but is himself in an error when he says that 'Sir Joseph Banks does not make a single observation on the disease called *Smut* in wheat;' and in our account of Sir Joseph's pamphlet, (Rev. for April last) he will find an extract in which 'Smut is supposed to begin in the form of rust on the leaves,' and to be attributed to a

fungus. We know as well as S. P. that *Blight* and *Smut* are distinct effects: but the question is, do not both result from the same original cause? We are inclined to believe that they do: but perhaps the diseased condition of the plant, owing to cold nights and frosts during the most tender state of its vegetation, is the primary cause of the growth of the fungus, which in one instance prevents the ascent of the sap and causes lean corn, and in the other converts the farinaceous substance of the grain into a puff ball. Our argument did not require us nicely to discriminate between the two diseases of *rust* and *smut*; we merely wished our agricultural readers to consider whether the fungi noticed by Sir J. Banks were the original source of these diseases, or only the result of an injury which the plant had received during its growth, from inclement seasons; and by which its pores, being filled with stagnated and inspissated sap, or with other dead matter, afforded a matrix in which the seed of the fungi could vegetate.

Our Correspondent who signs *Venandi Cupidus* is requested to recollect, on the 1st of September, (or thereabouts) that he is indebted to us in a *Brace of Birds*, as a compensation for the postage of his letter. With respect to its contents, we must confess that 'sporting works' are not much within the province of literary censors, nor perfectly adapted to their habits and taste. Occasionally, however, when such publications come before us, we shall endeavour to oblige this correspondent; —especially if he remembers the Partridges.

We must be excused for observing to Mr. B., of Huddersfield, that he has rather mistaken the channel through which he wishes to convey his laudable views to a brother practitioner. A Magazine would have been a proper medium, if he declines private communication; and if he wishes it, we will transmit his letter to any of these repositories which he may prefer.

In a letter from the Rev. Rowland Ingram, that gentleman remarks that, in our account of his "Reflections on Duelling," (Rev. for May last,) we opposed his principle that 'the Christian religion sanctions a military *life*, or the profession of arms;' and he intimates that this opposition is at variance with sentiments formerly given by us, and is now anti-patriotic. We, however, beg to deny both of these latter positions. The principle of self-defence does not imply *systematic war*; which, though it may be necessary in the present state of Europe, is not to be sanctioned by the mild spirit of the gospel. Mr. Ingram, in his letter, speaks of a *conditional* assent to the lawfulness of war on Christian principles, which certainly did not particularly strike us in reading his pamphlet: but, as this work is not now before us, we cannot precisely discuss this point.

Mr. Taylor's letter, from Manchester, is received, and we shall endeavour to give the subject of it as much attention as other numerous and more weighty engagements will allow.

☞ In the Review for June, p. 163. l. 9. for 'Zucceius,' r. *Lucceius*.

Errors, p. 257, 259, 283, 328. 288.